



Welcome!

Please share in the chat:

What school or organization are you a part of?

On a scale of 1-5, how familiar are you with SUN Bucks?

1 = this is my first time hearing about it

5 = I'm a SUN Bucks expert



SUN Bucks Webinar for Arizona School Staff & Community

Wednesday, May 7, 2025





Our goals for today's webinar:

- Help you understand how SUN Bucks will work in Arizona
- Provide easy ways for you to help get the word out in your community
- Ensure the right people at your schools have the right info
- Provide an opportunity for Q&A

Here's what we'll cover today:

- How SUN Bucks will work in Arizona, including what's new in 2025
- What does this mean for you? (Especially if you're in a Special Provision School!)
- Questions you may get from families
- How SUN Bucks and Summer Meals work together
- Walk through the School SUN Bucks Outreach Kit
- Q&A!



SUN Bucks in Arizona



Last year, SUN Bucks helped 715,000 children in Arizona get the healthy food they usually enjoy at school.

- SUN Bucks is for school-aged children in households that are at or under 185% of federal poverty guidelines.
- Families receive \$120 per school-aged child for groceries.
- The benefit is delivered on a new 2025 SUN Bucks card or an existing Arizona EBT card. Eligible children in the same household will have their benefits loaded onto a single card, whenever possible.



**Understanding SUN
Bucks eligibility for
your students**



Most eligible families will be automatically enrolled, but some will need to apply.

- **Children should receive SUN Bucks automatically if:**
 - They receive SNAP, TANF, OR income-based AHCCCS (Medicaid) (<185% FPL)
 - Are in foster care, or identified at their school as homeless, migrant, or runaway
 - Their family has completed and were approved for a Free or Reduced Price Meal Application (in non-Provision traditional pricing schools)
- There are many students whose household income is within 185% FPL, but aren't participating in any of these programs, especially in Special Provision Schools/CEP schools. We want to work extra hard to inform these families!

Okay! So.... will my students need to sign up for SUN Bucks, or will they get it automatically?

Special Provision Schools

Some of your eligible families *won't* be automatically enrolled, so they may need to sign up.

Your families **need to apply** for SUN Bucks if they are NOT:

- ☐ Receiving SNAP, TANF, OR income-based AHCCCS (Medicaid)
- ☐ In foster care, certified for Migrant Education Program or Homeless Education Program at school, or in Head Start

▶ Last year, many of our students were automatically enrolled through their Alternative Income Form. That has changed in 2025, and these students need to apply!

Non-Provision Schools

Most of your eligible families will be automatically enrolled, so they don't need to apply.

They will receive SUN Bucks automatically if they:

- ☒ Receive SNAP, TANF, or income-based AHCCCS (Medicaid)
- ☒ Are in foster care, certified for Migrant Education Program or Homeless Education Program at school, or in Head Start
- ☒ Submitted a Free or Reduced Price Meal Application and were certified.

Families can check here if they need to apply:

English:

azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreenener

Spanish:

azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreenenerSpanish

Remember, most eligible families will be automatically enrolled, but some will need to apply.

For households that need to apply for one or more children:

- Families must apply for SUN Bucks by **August 5th, 2025**
- SUN Bucks application available online through Eligibility Screener
 - English: azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreener and
 - Spanish: azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreenerSpanish
- If a family needs it, ADE will be adding the paper application in English and Spanish to their website soon

What's changed in 2025?

- The Alternative Income Form, used in CEP and Special Provision schools, can no longer be used to automatically enroll children.
Children who received SUN Bucks benefits this way last year need to apply this year.



**How you can help
families understand
and access
SUN Bucks**



In non-Provision, traditional pricing schools: Focus on *awareness*

- If you are in a non-Special Provision school (sometimes known as traditional pricing school), very few kids will need to apply. The vast majority would be participating in one of those programs, or would be caught through those F/R forms. (Which is great news!)
- For your students and their families, you can focus on *awareness*. You can help answer questions about what the benefit is and how they'll receive it, explain what it is so that they do not worry about receiving it automatically, and make sure they know how to use it.

In Special Provision/CEP schools: Focus on *action*

- In Special Provision/CEP schools, there will be a group of your students who need to apply.
- It can be complicated for families to understand the intricacies of the program, so we can help make it simple by focusing on a key message: “This program exists, and it’s easy to check your eligibility and apply.”
- You can help answer questions on how to check eligibility, how to apply, and how to use their benefit.

Questions you may get from families

Find more FAQs at:
azed.gov/SUNBucks

- **How will we get our SUN Bucks benefits?**

- Families who received SUN Bucks last year, and are eligible again this year, will have their 2025 benefits loaded onto the same card as last year (card on which receive SNAP/TANF or last year's Arizona EBT card). **Families will need to re-pin their card for this year (call 888-997-9333). Information on this was included in notices mailed to families with automatically eligible children.**
- For those newly eligible they'll receive a new SUN Bucks card mailed to them or if they receive SNAP or TANF benefits will be loaded onto their existing EBT card.

- **When will we get our SUN Bucks benefits?**

- Arizona plans to begin issuing to children who are receiving the benefit automatically beginning in May.

- **Why did I get SUN Bucks for one child but not all my children?**

- Depends on specifics of family. (Some but not all school-aged? In both Special Provision and non-Special Provision schools?) Try the Eligibility Screener for each child.

azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreener

Questions you may get from families

Find more FAQs at:
azed.gov/SUNBucks

- **I'm having trouble activating my card, what should I do?**
 - To activate and PIN a card, call 1-888-997-9333.
 - A parent/caregiver will need the 16-digit card number they received, the date of birth of the person named on the card, and the 8-digit case number at the top of the mailed notice they received from DES.
- **What should I do if I lost my card?**
 - If they need to order a replacement card, families can call Arizona's SUN Bucks hotline at 1-833-648-4406.
- **What should I do with my SUN Bucks card after I use it?**
 - Families should keep their 2025 SUN Bucks card for next year.
- **When do I need to use my benefits?**
 - After they're issued, SUN Bucks benefits need to be used within 4 months. After that, they expire.



**Free Summer Meals
and SUN Bucks work
together!**



The Arizona Summer Food Service Program and SUN Bucks work together



- This is one of several programs that help families who need extra support with food.
- SUN Bucks works alongside Free Summer Meals to help make sure Arizonan kids are getting nutritious food all year round.
- When you're talking to families or creating resources, let them know about all their options. It's a great co-messaging opportunity!

The SUN Bucks Outreach Kit includes:

- School Staff Fact Sheet
- Social media images and suggested captions (English + Spanish)
- Email messages, robo-call and text messages for CEP/Special Provision schools
- A take-home flyer for CEP/Special Provision schools
- A suggested timeline, so your messages reach your families when they need it the most

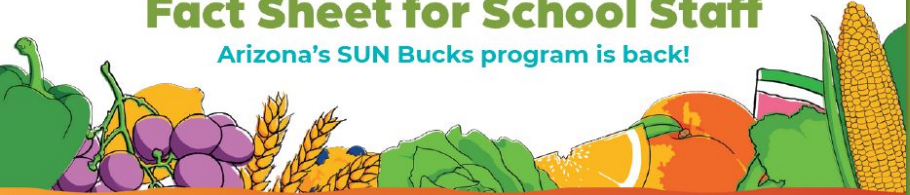
School Staff

SUN Bucks Fact Sheet



Fact Sheet for School Staff

Arizona's SUN Bucks program is back!



The SUN Bucks program provides grocery benefits to families with school-aged children in our community. Last year alone, SUN Bucks helped 715,000 kids in Arizona get the healthy food that they usually enjoy while they're in school!


But a lot of families still don't know that they're eligible for this support, which is why we're calling on trusted community members (like you!) to help get the word out about SUN Bucks. This partnership is crucial to making sure no child goes hungry over the summer break. It can feel a little confusing to help families understand their eligibility or how to apply, which is why we're here to help!

How do SUN Bucks work?

- SUN Bucks is for school-aged children in households that are at or under 185% of federal poverty guidelines.
- Families receive \$120 per eligible school-aged child for groceries, and the benefit will be delivered on an existing SNAP or TANF card, last year's Arizona EBT card, or a new SUN Bucks card for families new to the program. Eligible children in the same household will have their benefits loaded onto the same card, whenever possible.
- Most eligible families will be automatically enrolled, but some will need to apply. We want to work together to help these families understand, sign up, and access their SUN Bucks benefits.
- Families can check here if they need to apply, or if they should receive SUN Bucks automatically: azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreener
- This is one of several programs that help families in our community. SUN Bucks works alongside Free Summer Meals to help make sure Arizonan kids are getting nutritious food all year round.
- *Special note for Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) schools* More of your families will need to apply for SUN Bucks this year because Alternative Income Forms can't be used to automatically enroll children in the program this year. Families who aren't receiving SNAP, TANF or AHCCCS may need to apply (details below!).

You can help spread the word!

Your support and guidance to families about SUN Bucks will help your students receive the food they need this summer. We'll provide sample email or social media messages that you can use to help keep your community informed!



Social media images and suggested captions



For CEP/Special Provision Schools: Email, text, robocall language, and a take- home flyer

CEP Email content: English & Spanish

Email #1: Awareness and Apply

English

Subject line: It

Dear parents and
We're reaching
just one program

What are SUN
SUN Bucks pro
break. Last year
food while they

Check to see if
You are eligible
Most eligible families
(like you!) may
you are eligible

SUN Bucks work
Arizonan children

Start using you

Look out for be
mail. If you need
1-833-648-4406

Text message content English & Spanish

English

SUN Bucks is back! Are you already signed up?

At your child's school, unless you're receiving SNAP, TANF, or
for SUN Bucks. Here's the deal:

SUN Bucks helps families with \$120 in extra support for
Most eligible families are automatically enrolled, but others
need to apply. It's quick and easy. Find out if you're eligible
azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreener

Families can learn more about SUN Bucks in Arizona at
1-833-648-4406.

Spanish

¡Vuelve SUN Bucks! ¿Ya estás inscrito?

En la escuela de tus hijos, a menos que estés recibiendo
que necesites solicitar SUN Bucks. De esto se trata:

¡SUN Bucks ayuda a las familias con \$120 dólares adicionales
los niños cuando se acaban las clases! La mayoría de las familias
automáticamente, pero otras (como la tuya!) también
Es fácil y rápido. Averigua si calificas y aplica hoy mismo
azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreener

Encuentra más información sobre SUN Bucks en Arizona
1-833-648-4406.



Vuelve SUN Bucks!
¿Ya estás inscrito?

SUN Bucks proporciona \$120 en apoyo adicional para
comestibles a familias con niños en nuestra comunidad durante

El año pasado, SUN Bucks ayudó a familias a obtener alimentos saludables mientras
Bucks trabaja junto con Free Summer Meals para mantener a los niños alimentados durante

1 Consulta si eres elegible para

- Si tu estudiante recibe SNAP, TANF, o está en un hogar
identifica como persona trabajadora agrícola o
trabajadores agrícolas no será inscrito automáticamente
ayuda alimentaria, tendrás que solicitarla.
- Las familias que ya están inscritas recibirán una
carta por correo. Si no recibes una carta, debes aplicar
antes del 5 de agosto.
- Para ver si tu hijo/a es elegible, usa el código QR o
continúa en azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreener. Tomará 5 minutos!

2 Usa tus beneficios:

Los beneficios se recargan en tu tarjeta EBT de Arizona
existente. Si necesitas solicitar una nueva tarjeta, llama al
de SUN Bucks de Arizona al 1-833-648-4406.



SUN Bucks are back!
Are you already signed up?

**This program provides \$120 of extra grocery
benefits to families with school-aged children
(like yours!) in our community over the summer.**

Last year, SUN Bucks helped 715,000 kids in Arizona access healthy
food while they were out of school. SUN Bucks works alongside Free
Summer Meals to keep kids nourished all summer long.

1

Check to see if you're eligible for Summer EBT

- If your student is getting SNAP, TANF, or income-based AHCCCS,
or is in foster care, or is certified for the Migrant Education
Program or Homeless Education Program at school, or is in Head
Start, they'll be automatically enrolled. If not, and you could use
food support, you'll need to apply.
- Families who are already enrolled in the program will receive a
notice in the mail. If you don't receive a notice, you need to apply
before August 5th.
- To see if you're eligible, check using the QR code below or at
azed.gov/SUNBucksEligibilityScreener. It only takes 5 minutes!

2

Use your benefits: Benefits are reloaded onto an existing Arizona
EBT, or onto a new SUN Bucks card. If you need to order a
replacement card, call Arizona's SUN Bucks hotline at 1-833-648-4406.



Are you
eligible?

Outreach Kit Including Suggested Timeline

Timeline: When to share	Shareable resource
ASAP (Awareness)	Social Media Post #1 CEP/Special Provision Schools: Email #1 Robocall or text Take-home flyer
As School Wraps Up (Reminder for CEP Schools)	CEP/Special Provision Schools: Social Media Post #2
June - early July (Program Purpose: SEBT + Summer Meals)	Social Media Post #3
Between late July - Aug 4 (Back to School/Don't Miss Out!)	Social Media Post #4 CEP/Special Provision Schools: Email #2
Late August/Early Sept. (Don't Forget to Use Your Benefits!)	Social Media Post #5

Resources from ADE:

- Flyer for schools to promote the eligibility screener:
<https://www.azed.gov/sites/default/files/2025/04/No%20Application%20No%20Problem.pdf>
- Adaptable letter to send to families with children automatically eligible for SUN Bucks:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/summer/toolkit/templates/letter-automatic-eligibility>



Find the Arizona SUN Bucks Outreach Kit at:

[https://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/
ArizonaSEBTSchoolOutreach](https://bestpractices.nokidhungry.org/ArizonaSEBTSchoolOutreach)

Q & A

Please share your
questions in the chat!