



# Fact Sheet for School Staff

Arkansas' Summer EBT program is back!



**The Summer EBT program provides grocery benefits to families with school-aged children in our community. Last year alone, Summer EBT helped 290,000 kids in Arkansas 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 Summer EBT.

## How does Summer EBT work

- Summer EBT is for school-aged children in households participating in SNAP, TEA, Medicaid Free or Medicaid Reduced, or for children attending a school that offers USDA National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program, and whose household income meets the requirements for free or reduced-price school meals.
- Families receive \$120 per eligible school-aged child for groceries, and the benefit is delivered on a new or existing Summer EBT card. If they received Summer EBT last year, the benefits will be loaded on the same card—so families should make sure they still have their card handy!
- Most eligible families will be automatically enrolled, but some will need to apply.
- Families can check here if they need to apply, or if they should receive Summer EBT automatically:  
[ar.gov/SummerEBT](http://ar.gov/SummerEBT)

## You can help spread the word!

Your support and guidance to families about Summer EBT 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!





## Remember

Most eligible families will already be automatically enrolled for Summer EBT benefits, but some will need to apply.

## Understanding eligibility

### Are my students eligible for Summer EBT?

Summer EBT is for school-aged children in households participating in SNAP, TEA, Medicaid Free or Medicaid Reduced, or for children attending a school that offers USDA NSLP or SBP, and whose household income meets the requirements for free or reduced-price school meals.

### Do my students need to sign up for Summer EBT, or do they get it automatically?

#### CEP/P2 schools

Some of your eligible families WILL NOT be automatically enrolled, so they may need to complete a Summer EBT application.

Your families **need to apply** for Summer EBT if they are NOT:

- ☐ Receiving SNAP or TEA (Temporary Employment Assistance)
- ☐ Receiving Medicaid Free (Code 05) or Medicaid Reduced (Code 06)

#### Non-CEP/P2 schools

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

They will receive Summer EBT automatically if they:

- ☒ Receive SNAP or TEA (Temporary Employment Assistance)
- ☒ Receive Medicaid Free (Code 05) or Medicaid Reduced (Code 06)
- ☒ Completed a Free & Reduced Price School Meals Application through school and were approved

### What should families do?

Many children will automatically qualify for Summer EBT without the need to apply. Families should visit [ar.gov/summerebt](https://ar.gov/summerebt) to find an interactive eligibility flowchart.



## Checking eligibility and applying

- If the flowchart shows that a family needs to apply for Summer EBT for their child, they can **apply online at [access.arkansas.gov](https://access.arkansas.gov)** or download and print a copy (see “Important Resources” on [ar.gov/SummerEBT](https://ar.gov/SummerEBT))
- TIP: To apply at [access.arkansas.gov](https://access.arkansas.gov), families click the “Apply for New Benefits” tab and then log in with an existing Access Arkansas account, or create a new one.
- If they’re using a printed application, families can email the completed application to [SummerEBT@dhs.arkansas.gov](mailto:SummerEBT@dhs.arkansas.gov) or drop it off at their local DHS county office. Paper copies are also available at local DHS county offices.

## Things to keep in mind over the summer

- Benefits are issued as a one-time payment of \$120.
- Families who are automatically enrolled in the program will receive a notification letter in the mail before the benefits arrive. If they don’t receive a notification, they may need to sign up.
- These families can still sign up until August 25th.

## Using Summer EBT benefits

- All children in the same household will have their benefits loaded onto a new or existing Summer EBT card. If they received Summer EBT last year, the benefits will be loaded on the same card—so families should make sure they still have their card handy!
- Families should hold onto their Summer EBT cards for next year.

## More help

**If families need extra help with their application**, they can call Summer EBT help center Monday-Friday 8a-4:30p, at 1-833-316-2421.

**For questions about replacing a Summer EBT card**, families can call 1-800-997-9999.

