

## **PANDEMIC ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER (P-EBT)**

**Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)** is a program to help you purchase food for your child(ren) who were eligible for free or reduced price school meals at a school that participates in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP). Summer P-EBT extends benefits during the summer months following a school year during which there was a COVID-19 public health emergency.

### **TO RECEIVE P-EBT BENEFITS FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR, CHILD(REN) MUST BE:**

- Under the age of six, and;
- Enrolled in SNAP during the approved months

### **TO RECEIVE P-EBT BENEFITS IN SUMMER 2022, CHILD(REN) MUST BE:**

- Under the age of 6 in an active SNAP household, or;
- Eligible for free or reduced price school meals under National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or School Breakfast Program (SBP) as a student in grades K-12 during the 2021-2022 school year, or;
- Determined newly eligible for free or reduced price school meals during the covered summer period (not including incoming Kindergarten students in the 2022-2023 school year); or,
- Attending a school that participates in the Community Eligibility Provision.

### **WHEN DO I RECEIVE MY BENEFITS?**

#### **Children under six years old in SNAP households:**

- Benefits of \$42.02 per eligible child for the months of September 2021 – June 2022 were added to your Families First EBT card beginning July 30, 2022, with payments added through August 12, 2022.
- Payments were in addition to the household's regular SNAP payment and were added in multiple payments for each eligible month. For example, September 2021 was added on July 30, October 2021 was added on July 31, etc., until all payments were added by August 12.
- Summer 2022 P-EBT of \$391 per eligible child are expected to be added to your Families First EBT card starting in September.
- Summer P-EBT benefits are a one-time amount to cover the entire Summer 2022 period.

#### **School-Age (K-12) Children:**

- Summer P-EBT benefits are approved for school-age children in grades K-12. At this time, there is no approval for benefits for September 2021 – June 2022 for school-age children.
- Summer P-EBT benefits of \$391 per eligible child will be added to your Families First card or mailed starting September 2022. If you are not a SNAP recipient, you will get a new card in the mail even if you received P-EBT in the past.
- Summer P-EBT benefits are a one-time amount to cover the entire Summer 2022 period.

### **HOW DO I USE MY CARD?**

For most SNAP recipients, benefits will be added to your Families First card. If you are not a SNAP recipient, a P-EBT card, similar to a bank card with a PIN, will be mailed to you.

***To use your P-EBT benefits, you must first activate your card by calling 1-800-997-3333.***

You can use your P-EBT card at any store that accepts SNAP. Look for the SNAP EBT image or visit the Using Your Benefits page on [www.NJSNAP.gov](http://www.NJSNAP.gov) for a list of stores. P-EBT benefits can be used to purchase food items. However, prepared foods, such as a rotisserie chicken or hot meals, cannot be purchased with these benefits.

## **WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT P-EBT AND MY CARD?**

***To use your P-EBT benefits, you must first activate your card by calling 1-800-997-3333.***

- If you forgot your PIN, you can change it or report card issues online at [www.NJFamiliesFirst.com](http://www.NJFamiliesFirst.com), on the ConnectEBT app or by calling New Jersey EBT Customer Service at 1-800-997-3333.
- If you need a replacement card, contact your county board of social services. A list with phone numbers and addresses can be found on [www.NJSNAP.gov](http://www.NJSNAP.gov).
- If you are not interested in using the P-EBT benefits, please destroy your card or mail it to the address on the back of the card.
- Your P-EBT benefits are non-transferrable, which means they cannot be used by another person.

## **HOW DO I FIND MY P-EBT BALANCE?**

- Go to [NJFamiliesFirst.com](http://NJFamiliesFirst.com) or download the ConnectEBT app in the Apple App or Google Play store to create an account to view your current card balance and transaction history; or,
- Call New Jersey EBT Customer Service at 1-800-997-3333; or,
- Check your last store receipt.

**More information about P-EBT can be found in the P-EBT section of [www.NJSNAP.gov](http://www.NJSNAP.gov).**