

**Amendment to Approved State Plan for Pandemic EBT
Children in School and/or Child Care, Summer 2021**

Issuing Agency/Office:	FNS / Child Nutrition Programs, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
Title of Document:	Amendment to Approved State Plan for Pandemic EBT: Children in School and Child Care, Summer 2021
Document ID:	
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Date of Issuance:	April 26, 2021
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Summary:	(1) This document is a template to assist States in the development of an amendment to extend their approved State plan to operate Pandemic EBT for school children and for children in child care during summer 2021. (2) This document relates to Section 1106 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127) as amended by the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act (P.L. 116-159), the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260), and the American Rescue Plan Act, 2021 (P.L. 117-2)
Disclaimer:	The contents of this guidance document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.

Additional context and background for this document can be found at:
<https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/state-guidance-coronavirus-pandemic-ebt-pebt>

The submission of a P-EBT state plan, associated template and related reporting obligations are addressed in OMB# 0584-0660. This emergency information collection (IC) will be replaced by a full IC package to be submitted to OMB for approval prior to its expiration date of 8/31/21. All components of this summer 2021 P-EBT package will be addressed in the full IC package.

**Amendment to Approved State Plan for Pandemic EBT
Children in School and/or Child Care, Summer 2021**

1. **State:** Delaware
2. **Primary Citation:** Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) as amended by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
3. **Here's what FNS needs from you:**
 - a. If a State chooses to elect the U.S. standard benefit¹, simply check the box below. Next, go to letter 'c' (*Estimated total amount of P-EBT benefits*) of the template.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>By checking this box, we are indicating that our State will use the U.S. standard benefit for the covered summer period.</i>
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- b. If a State chooses not to elect the U.S. standard benefit, FNS needs the following information:
 - The number of days for which benefits will be issued as part of the State's covered summer period; and
 - An explanation for how the State arrived at the number of days in the State's covered summer period. USDA will not approve a plan that does not tie the length of its covered summer period to the actual summer 2021 calendars of an enrollment-weighted average, or the median, of a representative sample of its school districts.

¹The U.S. standard benefit – as defined in Question #5 of FNS' Q&A document titled, "Summer P-EBT Q&A" – is equal to the median number of weekdays in the sampled school districts multiplied by the daily P-EBT rate. For States in the continental U.S., that works out to a fixed summer benefit of \$375 per eligible child (55 days at \$6.82 per day). The U.S. standard benefit is higher for Alaska, Hawaii, and the territories; see Q/A #14 for a complete set of standard benefit amounts.

- c. Estimated total amount of P-EBT benefits the State will issue within this amendment’s date range. (Consult the appropriate table in Section 4, “Benefit Levels.”)

The State of Delaware’s P-EBT state plan is being amended to include Summer P-EBT. This amendment is extending the state plan through September 3, 2021. September 3 will be the last day that applications for Summer P-EBT will be accepted.

- Estimated amount issued to school children - \$ 37,537,500.00
- Estimated amount issued to non-school children in child care - \$7,146,000.00

- d. Estimated total number of children to which the State will issue P-EBT benefits.

- Estimated number of school children - 100,000 + 100 newly eligible
- Estimated number of non-school children in child care - 19,056

Summer P-EBT	Number of Children	US Standard Benefit	Total
School children	100,000	\$375.00	\$37,500,000.00
Non-school children in child care	18,535	\$375.00	\$6,950,625.00
Estimated newborns	521	\$375.00	\$195,375.00
Estimated newly eligible children	100	\$375.00	\$37,500.00
Total	119,156		\$44,683,500.00

- e. Tentative P-EBT issuance schedule (the dates on which Summer P-EBT benefits will be issued). Note that USDA encourages States to distribute summer benefits in two or even three issuances across the summer, to the extent practical.

- School children
- Children in child care

Due to the retroactive process of verifying and updating eligible Summer P-EBT children, Delaware has chosen to provide a one-time issuance for eligible children in school and child care. The plan is to provide benefits to most of the households by the end of July and the remaining households, including the newly eligible, at the end of August. Please note Delaware will provide a tentative schedule as soon as possible outlining the issuance dates.

- f. Describe how the State will identify eligible school children and children in child care for summer P-EBT. You must address each of the following bulleted items, below, when responding.

For school-aged children:

- Describe how the State will identify school children who received P-EBT benefits during the last month of SY 20-21.

Delaware will continue to use the established reporting process between the Delaware schools and the Division of Social Services (DSS) to identify children who received P-EBT. Each school sends monthly updated eligibility and attendance records for eligible students. Schools will submit their final attendance records for the school year in June and July.

- Describe how the State will identify school children who were eligible for free or reduced price school meals under the NSLP and SBP in SY 20-21 but did not receive P-EBT benefits in the last month of the school year because they attended school in-person and benefitted from a free or reduced price meal service at school. This includes children who were eligible for F/RP meals during the school year and did not receive P-EBT benefits because the children attended school in- person during the school year.

Delaware will use the monthly school data reports to identify F/RP, NSLP and SBP school children who received P-EBT benefits during the 20-21 school year. The final attendance report will be compared to the monthly reports to identify children attending school full-time in person during the last month of the school year. In addition, students who graduated will be included for Summer P-EBT. Delaware will receive student information from the school districts for any schools that have children eligible for free and reduced meals but may have attended school full-time and did not receive P-EBT previously.

- Describe how the State will identify children who are determined newly eligible for free or reduced-price school meals during the covered summer period. States must provide an opportunity for families to apply for free or reduced-price meals using the normal application process. States and SFAs should consider maintaining a minimum presence to process Free and Reduced-Price Meal applications, perhaps on a part-time or weekly basis. Another alternative is for SFAs to accept new Free and Reduced-Price Meal applications during the summer but only process them after the start of the new school year. Children determined eligible on applications ***submitted prior to the end of the summer*** could then be issued P-EBT benefits retroactively after the start of the new school year. (Note that it is preferable to process applications and issue benefits during the summer period that the benefits are intended to cover).

The Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) has chosen to continue operating the Seamless Summer Meal Option that has been extended through June 30, 2022. Delaware has confirmed with the DDOE that schools will continue to collect and process school meal applications throughout the covered summer period allowing the State to identify children who are determined newly eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. Any application received and approved after the end of the school year, and on or before September 3rd, 2021, the end of the covered summer period, will qualify for Summer 2021 P-EBT.

Delaware will highlight the application submission deadline on the website and in other outreach materials to make it clear that applications received after the September 3rd deadline will not be eligible for Summer P-EBT.

For children in child care:

- Describe how the State will identify SNAP-enrolled children who received P-EBT child care benefits in the last month of the school year.

Delaware will identify SNAP children who received P-EBT child care benefits through the June monthly benefit issuance data. In the beginning of July, a report will be run to identify all SNAP children under six who received or were determined newly eligible for P-EBT in June. A second report will be run for July and August to identify the newly eligible child under six Summer P-EBT children.

- Describe how the State will identify SNAP-enrolled children who would have received P-EBT child care benefits in the last month of the school year, but did not receive benefits because their child care facility was not closed or operating at reduced attendance or hours in that month, and neither their child care facility nor the child's residence was in the area of a school that was closed or operating at reduced attendance or hours in that month.

This does not apply to Delaware. Child care P-EBT is based on the public-school district and county where the SNAP households reside.

- Describe how the State will identify children who are part of a SNAP household who are newly eligible for P-EBT child care benefits during the covered summer period

Each month a query will be run to identify newly eligible SNAP households with children under six. These individuals will be matched against existing P-EBT benefit issuances data to avoid duplicate Summer P-EBT issuances. A separate query will be run to identify existing SNAP households that have had an increase in the number of children in the household. This will identify possible newborns and changes in household sizes. Delaware has identified 521 existing SNAP households expecting a child with a due date between June 1, 2021 and September 3, 2021.

4. Benefit Levels

A. U.S. standard Benefit

2021 Covered Summer Period	U.S. Standard P-EBT Benefit		
	Median Length of Covered Summer Period (weekdays)	Daily P-EBT Rate	Standard Benefit
Contiguous U.S.	55	\$6.82	\$375
Alaska	55	10.99	604
Hawaii, Guam, Virgin Islands,	55	7.97	438

B. State-Determined Benefit, Based on Daily Rate

Note: The daily benefit amount – \$6.82 – is only needed if a State elects to set its own covered summer period length; that is to say, if a State declines to use the U.S. standard benefit.

2021 Covered Summer Period	Free Reimbursements			Daily Total
	Lunch	Breakfas	Snack	
Contiguous U.S.	\$3.60	\$2.26	\$0.96	\$6.82
Alaska	5.79	3.64	1.56	10.99
Hawaii, Guam, Virgin Islands, Puerto	4.20	2.64	1.13	7.97

Notes:

1. Lunch rates include the 7 cent performance-based reimbursement and the extra 2 cents per meal received by school food authorities in which 60 percent or more of the lunches served during the second preceding school year were served free or at a reduced price.
 2. Breakfast rates are those received by "severe need" schools.
 3. Snack rates are those for afterschool snacks served in afterschool care programs
- Source: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-07-22/pdf/2020-15764.pdf>

Civil Rights Statement

The State of Delaware will continue to comply with civil rights requirements, to include providing equal access to individuals with disabilities and individuals who are limited English proficient.

Administration of State P-EBT Plan

The State of Delaware will administer P-EBT according to the terms of its approved State plan. In general, conditions related to benefit issuance reporting, administrative funding, and release of information remain in effect for the covered summer period. If the State wishes to change any of the terms of its plan, the State shall first notify USDA and will, if requested by USDA, submit a plan amendment for USDA review and approval.

Delaware’s Summer Plan mirrors the School plan for EBT/issuance, public information campaign, dispute resolution, and serving marginalized communities.

Reminder

If the State needs to make any significant changes to its Summer 2021 plan after approval, the State needs to submit an amendment to FNS that describes the change and its impact on operating summer P-EBT. USDA will review the amendment and approve allowable amendments. Delaware acknowledges the process and requirement for plan amendment approvals.

Signatures and Titles of Requesting SNAP and Child Nutrition State Agency Officials:



Signature
Thomas Hall,
Acting Director, DSS

Date of Request: 6-24-2021