Amendment to Approved State Plan for Pandemic EBT Children in School and/or Child Care, Summer 2022

Issuing	FNS / Child Nutrition Programs, Supplemental Nutrition	
Agency/Office:	Assistance Program	
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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 2022. (2) This document relates to Section 1101 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)	

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, expiration 11/30/2023.

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- **2. Primary Citation**: Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) as amended by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2022
- 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.

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By checking this box, we are indicating that our State will use the U.S. standard benefit for the covered summer period. We understand that USDA is only able to offer an interim standard benefit for children in child care at this time; USDA will provide states with additional guidance in mid to late June 2022 / early July that specifies the remaining amount of the USDA standard benefit for children in child care commensurate with the expiration date of the public health emergency.

- **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 2022 calendars of an enrollment-weighted average, or the median, of a representative sample of its school districts.
 - For the child care portion of the plan, USDA can only guarantee benefits through July 9. USDA considers this to be 1/2 through the typical State's covered summer period. For purposes of calculating an interim summer P-EBT benefit for children in child care, States may apply this 1/2 fraction to the full summer benefit that the State has calculated for school children.

¹ The U.S. standard benefit – as defined in Question #5 of FNS' Summer 2022 P-EBT Q&As – is equal to the median number of weekdays in a sample of each State's largest 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 \$391 per eligible child (55 days at \$7.10 per day). The U.S. standard benefit is higher for Alaska, Hawaii, and the territories; see Q/A #15 for a complete set of standard benefit amounts.

- o If the State believes that this date is more or less than 1/2 through the typical summer period of the State's schools, please support your position with data on the most common start dates of the summer break in the State's schools.
- As discussed in item #16 of USDA's P-EBT Summer 2022 Q&As, USDA will provide states with additional guidance by mid to late June / early July that specifies the remaining fraction of the full USDA standard benefit that States may provide to children in child care.

Response: [please use as much space as needed]

- **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.")
 - Estimated amount issued to school children \$150,709,777
 - Estimated amount issued to non-school children in child care \$24,491,849
- **d.** Estimated total number of children to which the State will issue P-EBT benefits.
 - Estimated number of school children 385,447 (based on FRL data received from the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) for school year 2021-2022)
 - Estimated number of non-school children in child care 62,639 (Based on the May 2022 Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) SNAP caseload data report)
- **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
 - O Please provide tentative issuance dates for the interim benefit for children in child care, and for any remaining amount that States will be able to issue following the release of additional guidance from USDA in mid to late June / early July.

DWSS plans on issuing all of the Summer P-EBT benefits in parallel with the October 2022 issuance for school months December 2021-February 2022. Issuances will be staggered from October 14-23.

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 21-22.

The FRL eligible student data will be provided to DWSS by NDE retroactively. This data will encompass all FRL eligible students for each month of the school year including the last month of SY 21-22. Only those students who are enrolled in school through the end of SY 21-22 will be considered for Summer P-EBT benefits.

• 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 21-22 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.

NDE will be providing two date files to DWSS. One will include all FRL eligible students for the 2021-2022 school year. The second file will encompass FRL eligible students with COVID -19 related absences or virtual learning days for the 2021-2022 school year. This data will be provided retroactively and will include those students not eligible for P-EBT the last month of the school year.

• 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).

According to the Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA), applications for the 2021-2022 school year are accepted through June 30, 2022. However for summer P-EBT, children who are determined income eligible for free or reduced price meals on applications submitted during any of the summer months are eligible for summer 2022 P-EBT benefits. In order to identify children who are determined newly eligible for free or reduced price school meals during the covered summer period families are able to apply for free and reduced price meals using the normal application process designated at their child's school. SFAs that maintain staff during the summer months will process new applications as they come in, until August 15, 2022. SFAs that do not maintain staff will still collect any new applications up until August 15, 2022. Those SFAs will make sure those applications are processed when staff return and the benefits for the students will be applied toward summer P-EBT for 2022.

Any meal applications completed and received during the summer of 2022, until August 15, 2022 will be processed and benefits applied to summer 2022 P-EBT benefits.

Applications for new students who were not enrolled in school during SY 21-22 will not be considered for Summer P-EBT benefits.

For children in child care:

• Describe how the State will identify children who are enrolled in SNAP during the covered summer period and who received P-EBT child care benefits in the last month of the school year.

DWSS has queried the SNAP eligibility database. As of June 1, 2022, there are 62,639 child care aged children (0-6) who received a SNAP benefit in the last month of the 2021-2022 school year. DWSS will query the SNAP database in September 2022 to ensure that any child enrolled in SNAP during June 2022. July 2022, and August 2022 will be eligible for Summer P-EBT benefits.

Nevada will also make the reasonable simplifying assumption that children who were not enrolled in school at the start of school year 2021-2022 and began receiving P-EBT child care benefits as 5-year-olds remained enrolled in a covered child care facility through the end of the school year and through summer 2022.

• Describe how the State will identify children who are enrolled in SNAP during the covered summer period and 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.

DWSS will issue a standard benefit for all child care aged children based on the CACFP Data Method provided by FNS. Therefore, this section is not applicable for Nevada.

 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

DWSS will query the SNAP eligibility database independently for the months of June 2022, July 2022, and August 20202 to identify children who had become part of a SNAP household during the covered summer period.

4. Confirmation of remaining elements in the State's approved school plan and/or child care plan

Please confirm that your P-EBT summer plan mirrors your approved school year 2021-2022 plan for EBT Processing and Benefit Issuance as well as Customer Service (Sections 7 and 8 of the SY 21-22 State Plan Template for Pandemic EBT). You do not need to describe in detail how you will handle these matters if your summer plan mirrors your approved school year plan(s); but if your summer plan materially differs from your approved school year plan(s), please describe how.

Response: [please use as much space as needed]

DWSS confirms that we will follow the same process as outlined in the approved school year 2021-2022 P-EBT plan which includes EBT processing and customer service.

5. Benefit Levels

A. U.S. Standard Benefit

Standard Benefit for School Children

	U.S. Standard P-EBT Benefit School Children			
2022 Covered Summer Period	Median Length of Covered Summer Period (weekdays)	Daily P-EBT Rate	Standard Benefit	
Contiguous U.S.	55	\$7.10	\$391	
Alaska	55	11.44	629	
Hawaii, Guam, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico	55	8.28	455	

Standard Benefit for Children in Child Care (Interim)

	U.S. Standard P-EBT Benefit			
	Children in Child Care (Interim)			
2022 Covered Summer Period	Median Length of	Length of the		
2022 Covered Summer Period	Covered Summer	Summer During the		Interim
	Period	Public Health	Daily P-EBT	Standard
	(weekdays)	Emergency	Rate	Benefit
Contiguous U.S.	55	1/2	\$7.10	\$195
Alaska	55	1/2	11.44	315
Hawaii, Guam, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico	55	1/2	8.28	228

State-Determined Benefit, Based on Daily Rate

Note: The daily benefit amount -\$7.10 – 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.

	Free Reimbursements			
2022 Covered Summer Period				Daily
	Lunch	Breakfast	Snack	Total
Contiguous U.S.	\$3.75	\$2.35	\$1.00	\$7.10
Alaska	6.03	3.78	1.63	11.44
Hawaii, Guam, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico	4.37	2.74	1.17	8.28

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-2021-07-16/pdf/2021-15107.pdf

Civil Rights Statement

The State will continue to comply with civil rights requirements by not discriminating on the ground of race, color, or national origin, by providing meaningful access to its programs and activities for individuals who are limited English proficient, and by providing equal access to individuals with disabilities.

Administration of State P-EBT Plan

The State 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.

Reminder

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Administrator, DWSS

If the State needs to make any significant changes to its Summer 2022 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.

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

Anooshehpoor	and Nutrition, email=bancoshehpoor@agri.nv.gov, c=US Date: 2022,06,13 11:30:49 -0700*
Signature [Print Name and Title]	
Robert H. Thompson	Digitally signed by Robert H. Thompson Date: 2022,06,13 13:47:50 -07'00
Signature Robert H. Thompson,	

Signature
[Print Name and Title]
Peter Zutz
Administrator, NDE

Date of Request: