

SY 2021-2022 July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022	Free Reimbursements USDA School Meal Programs			Daily Total
	Lunch	Breakfast	Snack	
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 7cent 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>

- Describe the benefit levels proposed, including how days of eligibility will be determined. What simplifying assumptions does the state propose? Why must the state make those simplifying assumptions? Please address both of these questions in detail.

Response: Since American Samoa’s P-EBT State Plan covers the period from February 22, 2022, to June 10, 2022, the benefit amounts will be calculated as follows:

Estimated Amount to be Issued	Total
Public/private school closure for the remaining 76 days of SY20212022 from February 22 to June 10, 2022. 76 days x \$8.28 per day = \$629.28 x 304 NAP students	\$191,301
Public/private school closure for the remaining 76 days of SY20212022 from February 22 to June 10, 2022. 76 days x \$8.28 per day = \$629.28 x 13,746 non-NAP students	\$8,650,083
The estimated cost of American Samoa P-EBT for February to June 2022	\$8,841,384

7. Implementation Timeline, EBT Processing, and Benefit Issuance

Please provide an implementation timeline for SY 2021-2022 with estimated dates for major milestones in your plan.

- States should develop their timeline cooperatively, including input from its EBT processor and all state agencies involved in implementing P-EBT. Instead of using specific dates, describe

important milestones and realistic durations between them. USDA suggests that states build their timelines from the date USDA approves the state's plan (Day #0).

- The timeline must include the state's tentative issuance dates. In SY 2020-2021, most states issued in phases, and on a rolling basis thereafter. For example: issuance to SNAP households Day #10, to non-SNAP households on Day #15, and to newly identified cases from Day #16 onward. This is a best practice, which we encourage states to continue.
- Examples of other possible milestones include, but are not limited to:
 - o State Education agency provides student data to SNAP state agency (Day #5)
 - o P-EBT hotline becomes active (Day #9)
 - o Public notice campaign begins (Day #10), etc.

Proposed Date	Milestones	Responsible Agency
MONTH 1	(If approved by April 2022) Update: Administrative funding was approved on June 20, 2022.	
Weeks 1-4 (June 20 to July 15)	State Plan Approval	FNS
	Issue Press Release regarding the approval of P-EBT State Plan for SY 2021-2022	DHSS
	Meet with partners for data sharing	DHSS-ASNAP/ASDOE
	Consultation with MIS contractor to reactivate online portal; order food coupon paper, MICR toner cartridges, ID cards, datacard ribbons, and other supplies for coupon issuance.	DHSS-ASI
	Inform food wholesalers and authorized retailers to order a sufficient amount of food to cater to P-EBT participants	DHSS-ASNAP
	Set up P-EBT program account with Department of Treasury for FY 2022.	DHSS-ASNAP/Finance/Director's Office
	Work with Office of Procurement to process contracts for redemption agent to redeem P-EBT coupons; MIS contractor to reactivate online portal and manage P-EBT eligibility system, and local radio stations to air public service announcements.	DHSS-ASNAP/Finance/Director's Office
MONTH 2		
Weeks 5-8 (July 18 to August 12)	(When contracts are fully executed)	
	Media outreach campaign that includes television and radio talk shows, public service announcements on television, radio stations, and social media, and other avenues regarding P-EBT for SY2021-2022.	DHSS-ASNAP
	Accept household information from parents who did not participate in SY 2020-2021 P-EBT through the P-EBT online portal. Update: All parents were required to register regardless if they participated in the SY 2020-2021 P-EBT program.	DHSS-ASNAP

	Verify student/ AR information using the ASDOE list to identify eligible school-age children.	DHSS-ASNAP
	Match ASDOE list of enrolled school children against FADS to identify those who are receiving NAP benefits.	DHSS-ASNAP
	Start issuing identification cards to ARs of approved cases.	DHSS-ASNAP
	Start conducting ME client file reviews to ensure compliance with program rules.	DHSS-PIT
MONTH 3		
Weeks 9-12 (August 15 to September 9)	Finalize calculation of benefit levels based on final data transmission from ASDOE	DHSS-ASNAP
MONTHS 4 - 6		
Weeks 13-20 (September 12 to November 4)	One-time issuance of P-EBT benefits in alphabetical order. (Update: Started issuing P-EBT benefits on August 15 until September 30)	DHSS-ASNAP
MONTHS 5-8 (October 3 to December 31)	Extend deadline for parents to register for P-EBT and issue benefits.	DHSS-ASNAP
MONTH 11		
Week 37	Benefits expire on February 28, 2023	DHSS-ASNAP
MONTH 11-12		
Weeks 38-41 (March 1-31, 2023)	30-day grace period for all authorized retailers to redeem food coupons. Extend liquidation period from December 31, 2022 to March 31, 2023.	DHSS-ASNAP

Please also address each of the following:

- Will the state issue P-EBT benefits on a unique P-EBT card design? If so, who will receive these cards, non-SNAP households only? Or also SNAP households?

Response: The ASNAP is issuing NAP benefits in the form of paper coupons. As such, we will also be issuing P-EBT benefits in the form of paper coupons.

- How will the state distinguish P-EBT from SNAP and D-SNAP issuances? USDA strongly encourages the use of a sub-benefit type, even if your state did not do so in SY 2020-2021. This will greatly facilitate the states' ability to report and USDA to maintain accountability for P-EBT.

Response: P-EBT food coupons will bear the name, "Pandemic EBT" to differentiate them from the ASNAP coupons. This will help staff, participants, retailers, restaurants, and the redemption agent (bank) in distinguishing between the two programs. The color of the P-EBT food coupon will also be different from the colors of the ASNAP food coupons that are currently being issued by the ASNAP.

- What will be your draw/spend priority for P-EBT, SNAP, and D-SNAP? USDA suggests making P-EBT first on your draw/spend priority.