Food and Nutrition Service

1320 Braddock Place Alexandria, VA 22314 February 12, 2021

SUBJECT: Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program (P-EBT)

Approval of the Alaska's State Plan Amendment

TO: Jesus Mendoza

Regional Administrator Western Regional Office

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127) (the Act) authorized a temporary assistance program for households with children affected by school closures during the public health emergency declared on January 27, 2020. Pursuant to the authority granted under Section 1101 of the Act, FNS approved Alaska's plan to operate P-EBT for school year 2019-2020 on June 4.

Alaska proposes to amend its school year 2019-2020 P-EBT plan to issue benefits to children who were previously determined eligible for benefits but did not receive them. Under Alaska's approved plan, households had to submit demographic information to the State to support the creation of EBT cards. Not all households provided information before the September 30 deadline for benefit issuance. The State proposes to extend the deadline for households to submit that information.

FNS approves Alaska's P-EBT plan amendment. Alaska estimates that it will issue up to \$15 million in P-EBT benefits for approximately 32,000 children.

The State agency must notify the FNS Regional Office immediately if it is preparing to issue an amount different than the estimate in this plan.

FNS reminds Alaska of the importance of accurate reporting of P-EBT benefits on forms FNS-292B, FNS-46, and FNS-388. Please refer to FNS's <u>April 27 memo on P-EBT reporting</u>, and do not hesitate to contact your Regional Office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cindy Long
Deputy Administrator
Child Nutrition Programs