

**Amendment to Approved State Plan for Pandemic EBT
Children in School, Child Care and Summer 2020-2021**

Oklahoma is requesting to amend its approved Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) plan for school year and summer 2020-2021 for the following section regarding expunged benefits:

Section 7. Implementation Timeline, EBT Processing, and Benefit Issuance

- How will the state handle expungement of P-EBT benefits? USDA recommends that states follow the same expungement rules that the state currently follows for SNAP. *Oklahoma will systematically expunge P-EBT benefits after 274 days of account inactivity in accordance with 7 CFR 274.2(i). Oklahoma has identified a large number of school children's P-EBT cases that have not used their benefits that have now been expunged. A sample of these cases indicate that a majority of the cards were not activated, or the household was unaware of additional P-EBT issuances loaded onto the account. One issue stems from outdated addresses received from the eligibility records. When the P-EBT benefits for school year 2020-2021 were issued beginning in September – October 2021, those addresses were a year and a half old based on when the parent or guardian originally applied for NSLP with their local school district. Oklahoma believes many of the parents and guardians never received P-EBT cards on their child's behalf due to this issue. Additionally, supplemental eligible P-EBT issuances were needed for some households for school year 2020-2021. Some households who did previously activate their P-EBT card and used that benefit were not aware of additional issuances until recently and now those benefits have been expunged.*

OKDHS will coordinate with Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) to provide information regarding this opportunity to families participating in NSLP.

Oklahoma will reissue P-EBT benefits that were expunged for households that request the reissuance when they have not activated their cards and accessed any of their original issuance. Oklahoma will also reissue the expunged P-EBT benefits that were issued after the original issuance that were not accessed and went unused as the household was likely not aware of the continuation of the emergency program or additional issuances. Households will be able to request a restoration of expunged benefits until the end of April 2023. Oklahoma will review each inquiry on a case-by-case basis when requested by the household and only reinstate issuances that were not accessed.