

Food and Nutrition Service

1320 Braddock Place Alexandria, VA 22314 July 7, 2022

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

Approval of the Delaware's State Plan Amendment for Child Care,

School Year 2021-2022

TO: Dr. Patty Bennett

Regional Administrator Mid-Atlantic 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 Delaware's plan to operate child care P-EBT for school year 2021-2022 on May 12, 2022.

Delaware proposes to amend its approved child care P-EBT plan for school year 2021-2022 in order to allow the State to issue its spring semester benefits in a more timely manner. Delaware's approved plan determined separate monthly benefit amounts for each of the months of January to June 2022, based on the reduction of CACFP lunch claims for each month by comparing current data with pre-pandemic months. This approach required Delaware to delay issuing benefits until CACFP data for all months of the school year were available. Delaware proposes to calculate an average benefit for each of the months from January to June 2022 by comparing CACFP meal data for January-April 2022 to the pre-pandemic months of January-February 2020 and March-April 2019. Delaware will review preliminary CACFP meal data for May and June 2022 to ensure there is a continued reduction in CACFP lunch claims prior to issuance.

FNS approves Delaware's P-EBT plan amendment. Delaware will tentatively issue benefits for the months of January through June in a single issuance in late July or August.

FNS reminds Delaware 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 Administrator