



Food and Nutrition
Service

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

April 29, 2020

**SUBJECT: Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program (P-EBT)
Approval of Massachusetts State Plan Amendment**

**TO: Kurt Messner
Regional Administrator
Northeast Regional Office**

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127) (FFCRA or the Act) authorized a temporary assistance program for households with children affected by school closures during the public health emergency that was declared on January 27, 2020. On March 20, 2020 the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) announced and began accepting State plans for the Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) program. Pursuant to the authority granted under Section 1101 of the Act, FNS approved Massachusetts' plan to operate P-EBT on April 17, 2020.

Consistent with the approved State plan, FNS is approving the State's amendment to add additional benefit days due to additional school closure dates. This will increase the number of benefit days from 35 to 70, and increase in the estimated issuance amount from \$100,707,800 to \$201,415,600.

Sincerely,

Cindy Long
Acting Associate Administrator
Regional Operations and Support