



Food and Nutrition
Service

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

July 16, 2020

**SUBJECT: Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program (P-EBT)
Approval of New Jersey's State Plan Amendment**

**TO: Patricia Dombroski
Regional Administrator
Mid-Atlantic 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 the State of New Jersey's plan to operate P-EBT on May 8, 2020.

On July 10, 2020, the State submitted an amendment to its P-EBT plan. New Jersey's May plan did not cover children who became newly eligible for P-EBT benefits between the date that schools closed in March and the end of the school year in June. The State's amended plan will cover newly eligible children who were directly certified or certified by their school districts by application. The State estimates that its amended plan will extend P-EBT coverage to an additional 8,500 children.

FNS approves the State's P-EBT plan amendment. The amended plan will increase the number of children receiving P-EBT benefits from 597,000 to 605,500, and increase the estimated issuance amount from \$248.4 million to \$250.9 million.

Sincerely,

Cindy Long
Deputy Administrator
Child Nutrition Programs