

Food and Nutrition Service

1320 Braddock Place Alexandria, VA 22314 September 14, 2020

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

Approval of North Carolina's State Plan Amendment

TO: Willie Taylor

Regional Administrator Southeast 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 declared on January 27, 2020. On March 20, USDA's 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 North Carolina's plan to operate P-EBT for school year 2019-2020 on April 17. FNS approved an amended plan for North Carolina on June 23.

On September 3, North Carolina submitted an amendment to operate P-EBT in school year 2020-2021 through the September 30 expiration of the program.

FNS approves North Carolina's P-EBT plan amendment. The State estimates that it will issue an estimated \$111.5 million in P-EBT benefits for the start of school year 2020-2021 through September to 640,000 children. The State agency must notify the FNS Regional Office immediately if it is preparing to issue an amount for the start of school year 2020-2021 different than the estimate in this plan.

North Carolina understands that the State must issue all P-EBT benefits by September 30.

FNS reminds North Carolina 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