

Food and Nutrition Service

1320 Braddock Place Alexandria, VA 22314 June 2, 2023

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

Approval of Oklahoma's State Plan Amendment,

School Year 2020-2021, Summer 2021, and Summer 2022

TO: Bill Ludwig

Regional Administrator Southwest 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 Oklahoma's plan to operate P-EBT for school year 2020-2021 on June 14, 2021, Oklahoma's plan to operate P-EBT for the summer of 2021 on October 6, 2021, and Oklahoma's plan to operate P-EBT for the summer of 2022 on June 16, 2022.

Oklahoma proposes to amend its school year 2020-2021, summer 2021, and summer 2022 P-EBT plans to reissue expunged benefits at the request of households. The state will reissue benefits to households that did not activate their cards and did not access any of their original issuance. Oklahoma will also reissue benefits that were issued after the original benefit and that were not accessed and went unused. Reissued benefits will be expunged consistent with the timeframe used in the Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program. Oklahoma will review each inquiry on a case-by-case basis when requested by the household and only reinstate balances that were not accessed.

Oklahoma will cease taking requests for reissued benefits for school year 2020-2021 and summer 2021 on July 15, 2023. Oklahoma will cease taking requests for summer 2022 on August 15, 2023. Oklahoma will issue all benefits by September 30, 2023.

FNS approves Oklahoma's P-EBT plan amendment to allow for the reissuance of expunged benefits and to set or extend the deadline for household requests.

FNS reminds the Oklahoma 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</u>, <u>2020 memo on P-EBT reporting</u>, and do not hesitate to contact your Regional Office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cindy Long Administrator