Amendment to Approved State Plan for Pandemic EBT Children in School and/or Child Care, Summer 2021

Issuing	FNS / Child Nutrition Programs, Supplemental Nutrition	
Agency/Office:	Assistance Program	
Amendment to Approved State Plan for Pandemic EBT: Chillin School and Child Care, Summer 2021		
Document ID:	10 C Section Control C	
Z-RIN:		
Date of Issuance:	April 26, 2021	
Replaces:	places: N/A	
Summary:	(1) This document is a template to assist States in the development of an amendment to extend their approved State plan to operate Pandemic EBT for school children and for children in child care during summer 2021. (2) This document relates to Section 1106 of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127) as amended by the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act (P.L. 116-159), the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 (P.L. 116-260), and the American Rescue Plan Act, 2021 (P.L. 117-2)	
Disclaimer:	The contents of this guidance document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.	

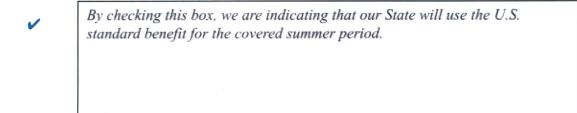
Additional context and background for this document can be found at: https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/state-guidance-coronavirus-pandemic-ebt-pebt

The submission of a P-EBT state plan, associated template and related reporting obligations are addressed in OMB# 0584-0660. This emergency information collection (IC) will be replaced by a full IC package to be submitted to OMB for approval prior to its expiration date of 8/31/21. All components of this summer 2021 P-EBT package will be addressed in the full IC package.

Amendment to Approved State Plan for Pandemic EBT Children in School and/or Child Care, Summer 2021

1	State.	Wyoming
1.	State.	WVVOIIII

- 2. **Primary Citation**: Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) as amended by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
- 3. Here's what FNS needs from you:
 - a. If a State chooses to elect the U.S. standard benefit¹, simply check the box below. Next, go to letter 'c' (*Estimated total amount of P-EBT benefits*) of the template.



- **b.** If a State chooses not to elect the U.S. standard benefit, FNS needs the following information:
 - The number of days for which benefits will be issued as part of the State's covered summer period; and
 - An explanation for how the State arrived at the number of days in the State's covered summer period. USDA will not approve a plan that does not tie the length of its covered summer period to the actual summer 2021 calendars of an enrollment-weighted average, or the median, of a representative sample of its school districts.

Response: [please use as much space as needed]

N/A

¹ The U.S. standard benefit – as defined in Question #5 of FNS' Q&A document titled, "Summer P-EBT Q&A" – is equal to the median number of weekdays in the sampled school districts multiplied by the daily P-EBT rate. For States in the continental U.S., that works out to a fixed summer benefit of \$375 per eligible child (55 days at \$6.82 per day). The U.S. standard benefit is higher for Alaska, Hawaii, and the territories; see Q/A #14 for a complete set of standard benefit amounts.

- c. Estimated total amount of P-EBT benefits the State will issue within this amendment's date range. (Consult the appropriate table in Section 4, "Benefit Levels.")
 - Estimated amount issued to school children: \$11,013,750
 - Estimated amount issued to non-school children in child care: \$1,809,750
- **d.** Estimated total number of children to which the State will issue P-EBT benefits.
 - Estimated number of school children: 29,370
 - Estimated number of non-school children in child care: 4.826
- e. Tentative P-EBT issuance schedule (the dates on which Summer P-EBT benefits will be issued). Note that USDA encourages States to distribute summer benefits in two or even three issuances across the summer, to the extent practical.

Wyoming tentatively plans to issue Summer P-EBT benefits to most eligible children in a single issuance in October. Wyoming will notify State retailers of this issuance two-weeks in advance.

Children who apply for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Free or Reduced-Priced (F/RP) school meals during the summer coverage period (June 15-August 31) and attended a school during the 2020-2021 school year that participated in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) will receive a single Summer P-EBT issuance in October.

f. Describe how the State will identify eligible school children and children in child care for summer P-EBT. You must address each of the following bulleted items, below, when responding.

For school-aged children:

• Describe how the State will identify school children who received P-EBT benefits during the last month of SY 20-21.

Under Wyoming's approved School Year 2020-2021 P-EBT plan, DFS will issue P-EBT benefits to eligible students based on student-level data available in the WDE-684. The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) plans to use both school year collections – Fall (October) and Spring (March) to determine P-EBT eligibility for the 2020-2021 School Year.

The WDE-684 also has a June collection that reconciles final attendance information from the 2020-2021 School Year. The June collection will be used to identify students eligible for Summer P-EBT benefits by confirming that each student attended an NSLP-participating school in May 2021, which was the last month of the 2020-2021 school year in Wyoming.

- Describe how the State will identify school children who were eligible for free or reduced-price school meals under the NSLP and SBP in SY 20-21 but did not receive P-EBT benefits in the last month of the school year because they attended school in-person and benefitted from a free or reduced-price meal service at school. This includes children who were eligible for F/RP meals during the school year and did not receive P-EBT benefits because the children attended school in-person during the school year.
 - See above. The WDE-684 includes all children eligible for F/RP meals, including those who attended school in-person throughout the 2020-2021 School Year.
- Describe how the State will identify children who are determined newly eligible for free or reduced-price school meals during the covered summer period. States must provide an opportunity for families to apply for free or reduced-price meals using the normal application process. States and SFAs should consider maintaining a minimum presence to process Free and Reduced-Price Meal applications, perhaps on a part-time or weekly basis. Another alternative is for SFAs to accept new Free and Reduced-Price Meal applications during the summer but only process them after the start of the new school year. Children determined eligible on applications submitted prior to the end of the summer could then be issued P-EBT benefits retroactively after the start of the new school year. (Note that it is preferable to process applications and issue benefits during the summer period that the benefits are intended to cover).

School nutrition staff will process applications submitted during the summer coverage period (through August 31, 2021) once they return to school buildings at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year. WDE expects all F/RP meal applications submitted during the summer coverage period to be processed by mid-September. However, the WDE-684 does not capture the dates that applications for F/RP meals are submitted or processed by local schools, so WDE will not be able to use existing data sources to segregate applications submitted during the covered summer period from those submitted in the first month of the school year (September 1-30). Instead, WDE will need to request a list of students who applied for F/RP meals during the summer months from individual schools. This manual process is expected to take some time, so DFS does not anticipate issuing Summer P-EBT benefits to newly eligible students until November.

Wyoming will only issue Summer P-EBT benefits to newly eligible children who were enrolled in an NSLP-participating school during the 2020-2021 school year. Students attending an NSLP-participating school for the first time during the 2021-2022 school year (such as kindergarteners) will not be eligible for Summer P-EBT benefits.

For children in child care:

• Describe how the State will identify SNAP-enrolled children who received P-EBT child care benefits in the last month of the school year.

- Describe how the State will identify SNAP-enrolled children who would have received P-EBT child care benefits in the last month of the school year, but did not receive benefits because their child care facility was not closed or operating at reduced attendance or hours in that month, and neither their child care facility nor the child's residence was in the area of a school that was closed or operating at reduced attendance or hours in that month.
- Describe how the State will identify children who are part of a SNAP household who are newly eligible for P-EBT child care benefits during the covered summer period

Response:

The Wyoming Department of Family Services (DFS) will query its SNAP eligibility system to identify children under the age of 6 (as of October 1, 2020) who received SNAP in June, July, and/or August. SNAP enrollment for any portion of the summer coverage period (June 1 – August 15) will result in eligibility for Summer P-EBT benefits. DFS and its vendor (Crocus) will ensure that no child who receives Summer P-EBT benefits under Child Care criteria also receives P-EBT benefits under School Age criteria.

4. Benefit Levels

A. U.S. standard Benefit

	U.S. Standard P-EBT Benefit				
2021 Covered Summer Period	Median Length of Covered Summer Period	Daily P-EBT	Standard		
	(weekdays)	Rate	Benefit		
Contiguous U.S.	55	\$6.82	\$375		
Alaska	55	10.99	604		
Hawaii, Guam, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico	55	7.97	438		

B. State-Determined Benefit, Based on Daily Rate

Note: The daily benefit amount – \$6.82 – is only needed if a State elects to set its own covered summer period length; that is to say, if a State declines to use the U.S. standard benefit.

	Free Reimbursements			
2021 Covered Summer Period	Lunch	Breakfast	Snack	Daily Total
Contiguous U.S.	\$3.60	\$2.26	\$0.96	\$6.82
Alaska	5.79	3.64	1.56	10.99
Hawaii, Guam, Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico	4.20	2.64	1.13	7.97

Notes:

- 1. Lunch rates include the 7 cent performance-based reimbursement and the extra 2 cents per meal received by school food authorities in which 60 percent or more of the lunches served during the second preceding school year were served free or at a reduced price.
- 2. Breakfast rates are those received by "severe need" schools.
- Snack rates are those for afterschool snacks served in afterschool care programs Source: https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2020-07-22/pdf/2020-15764.pdf

Civil Rights Statement

The State will continue to comply with civil rights requirements, to include providing equal access to individuals with disabilities and individuals who are limited English proficient.

Administration of State P-EBT Plan

The State will administer P-EBT according to the terms of its approved State plan. In general, conditions related to benefit issuance reporting, administrative funding, and release of information remain in effect for the covered summer period. If the State wishes to change any of the terms of its plan, the State shall first notify USDA and will, if requested by USDA, submit a plan amendment for USDA review and approval.

Reminder

If the State needs to make any significant changes to its Summer 2021 plan after approval, the State needs to submit an amendment to FNS that describes the change and its impact on operating summer P-EBT. USDA will review the amendment and approve allowable amendments.

Signatures and Titles of Requesting SNAP and Child Nutrition State Agency Officials:

May Almidt 9.21.21 Korin A. Schmidt
Director, Wyoming Department of Family Services
09/20/2021
Dicky Shanor Chief of Staff, Wyoming Department of Education
Date of Request: