

## FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit Program

The FCC has launched a new temporary benefit where low-income households can receive \$50/month (\$70/month if on tribal lands) credited towards broadband services. FNS has been providing technical assistance because people can qualify through participation in SNAP or free and reduced school lunch.

SNAP households should have correspondence they can use to prove enrollment and the Department of Ed has provided schools with a form they can provide to families to show eligibility via the NSLP. However, it is possible that there may be people who reach out to SNAP offices or the school lunch program for either questions about the FCC EBB program or for documentation they can use to apply.

### Frequently Asked Questions

1. POC at the Governor's Office of Economic Development for the FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit?
  - a. Rebecca Dilg [rdilg@utah.gov](mailto:rdilg@utah.gov).
2. What time period does a household need to qualify for free or reduced-price meals for the benefit?
  - a. Free and Reduced-price School Lunch or Breakfast Program in the 2019-20 or 2020-21 school year. If the household chooses this program, they will enter school name, school district and state.
  - b. As this is a provider program, a household would want to check with an individual provider if they have additional guidance related to this qualifier.
3. Can households approved for free or reduced-price meal benefits during the summer months qualify?
  - a. The household should contact their broadband provider, or possible provider to get more details. The state website [Emergency Broadband Benefit webpage](#) has a list of participating Utah providers that families can reference.
4. Are students in Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Schools eligible?
  - a. Yes, the FCC has provided information stating ALL students enrolled in CEP schools are eligible.
5. Are there any flexibilities provided to the LEAs/SFAs on confidentiality or disclosure as outlined in the Eligibility Manual for School Meals (section 5, [https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/cn/SP36\\_CACFP15\\_SFSP11-2017a1.pdf](https://fns-prod.azureedge.net/sites/default/files/cn/SP36_CACFP15_SFSP11-2017a1.pdf)) if the LEA/SFA were to share the information directly with the internet service company?
  - a. No, schools will have to get consent from the families to release any student free or reduced-price information.
6. What documentation must the school foodservice provide households for the application?
  - a. The application is asking for self-certification. The application does include a general statement that reads:
    - i. You may need to show other documents. If the EBB Program Administrator is not able to validate that you or someone in your household qualify by checking available electronic resources (including eligibility databases for the FCC's government agency partners), you may need to provide additional documents. For example, you may need to provide an official document that proves your

participation in a qualifying government assistance program, your income, or your identity. There is no additional information provided.

7. Is there a contact LEAs/SFAs can contact directly for specific questions?
  - a. The program has a help line with email address, phone number, and hours of service documented here: <https://getemergencybroadband.org/help/>.

Learn more and direct households to:

- FCC Emergency Broadband Benefit Program <https://www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit>
- Utah <https://business.utah.gov/broadband/emergency-broadband-benefit/>