

## Pennsylvania - Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) – Summer 2023 Family Guide

Congress created Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) as a temporary response to help families cover the cost of breakfasts and lunches their children would have been eligible to receive for free or at reduced price through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP).

To be eligible for a 2023 Summer P-EBT benefit a student must:

1. As of May 2023, be attending a school that participates in the NSLP.
2. Be determined as eligible for free or reduced-price school meals for the 2022-2023 school year.

Students are not eligible to receive a 2023 Summer P-EBT benefit if, for the 2022-2023 school year, they were homeschooled, attended a school that did not participate in NSLP, or attended a cyber school or a district's virtual academy that existed prior to the pandemic.

The 2023 P-EBT benefit is a fixed amount of \$120 per eligible student. The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services (DHS) will issue the benefits starting in late July and going into mid-August 2023.

### Family Resources – Quick Reference

#### Check if a child was determined eligible to receive P-EBT:

P-EBT Parent Portal: <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/Compass.Web/Public/pebtsearch>

For specific instructions for accessing the portal on a mobile device and searching for the child's name go to this link:

[https://www.dhs.pa.gov/coronavirus/Documents/PEBT\\_Parent-Portal-Guide.pdf](https://www.dhs.pa.gov/coronavirus/Documents/PEBT_Parent-Portal-Guide.pdf)

**Activate the child's P-EBT card or change the pin** – call the number on the back of the card.

**Request replacement card** for the 2021-2022 school year or summer 2022 or 2023:

P-EBT Parent Portal: <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/Compass.Web/Public/pebtsearch>

**Submit a P-EBT inquiry: NEW**

**P-EBT Inquiry Portal:** <https://www.pennebt.com/en/> , or call the family hotline: 877-343-0179

**Check a P-EBT balance and transaction history:**

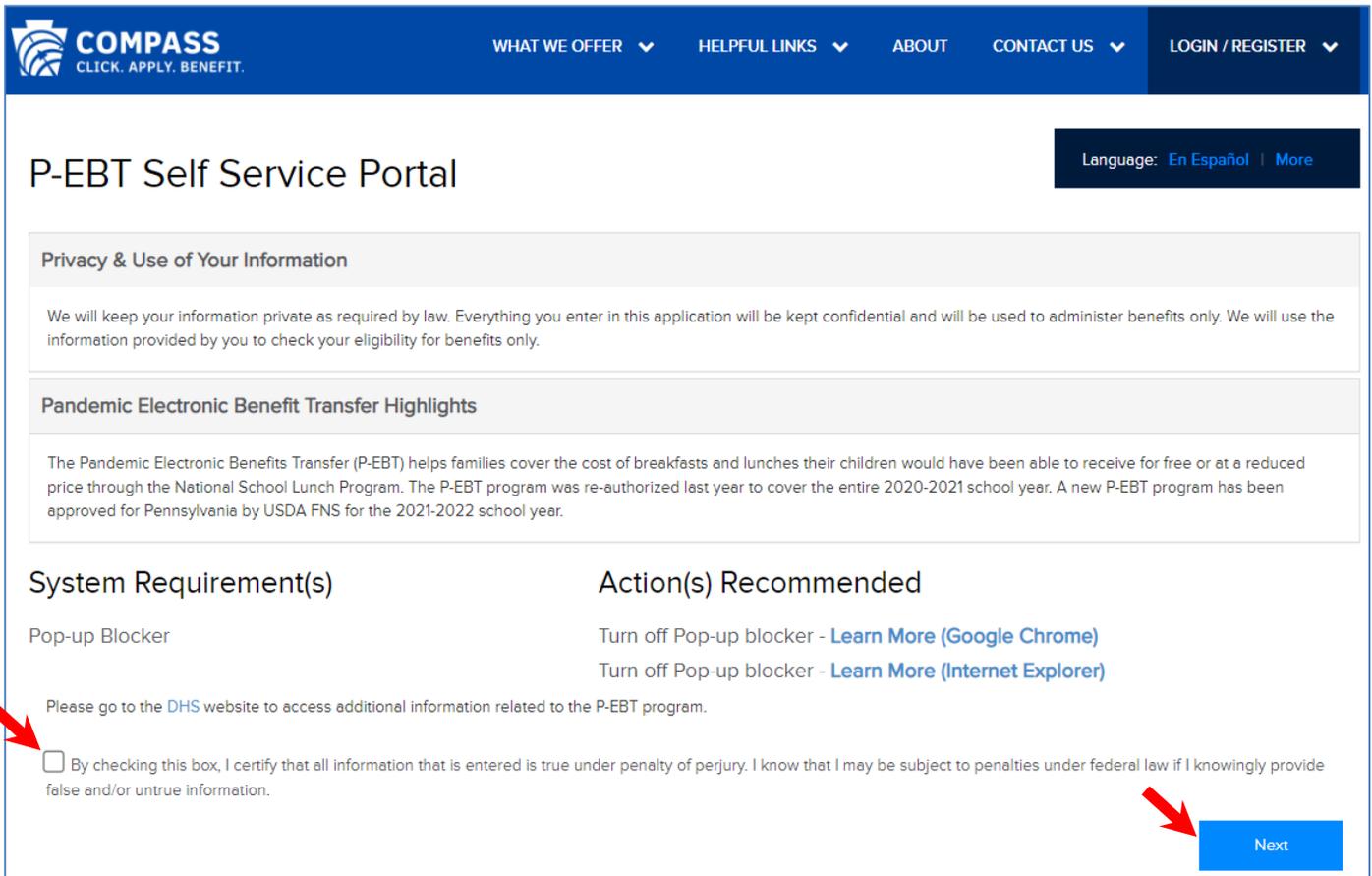
<https://www.connectebt.com/> or the ConnectEBT mobile app.

The DHS P-EBT website is a one-stop overview for many of these resources and provides further details, including Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/coronavirus/Pages/P-EBT-Guide.aspx>

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### P-EBT Parent Portal Instructions

1. Go to: <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/Compass.Web/Public/pebtsearch>
2. On the first screen, check the acknowledgement box at the bottom of the screen then click “Next”



The screenshot shows the 'P-EBT Self Service Portal' interface. At the top is a blue navigation bar with the COMPASS logo and menu items: WHAT WE OFFER, HELPFUL LINKS, ABOUT, CONTACT US, and LOGIN / REGISTER. Below the navigation bar is a header section with the title 'P-EBT Self Service Portal' and a language selector 'Language: En Español | More'. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Privacy & Use of Your Information', 'Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer Highlights', and a table with two columns: 'System Requirement(s)' and 'Action(s) Recommended'. The table lists 'Pop-up Blocker' as a requirement with links to learn more for Google Chrome and Internet Explorer. Below the table is a text instruction: 'Please go to the DHS website to access additional information related to the P-EBT program.' At the bottom of the form is a certification checkbox: 'By checking this box, I certify that all information that is entered is true under penalty of perjury. I know that I may be subject to penalties under federal law if I knowingly provide false and/or untrue information.' A blue 'Next' button is located at the bottom right of the form. Red arrows point to the checkbox and the 'Next' button.

**COMPASS**  
CLICK. APPLY. BENEFIT.

WHAT WE OFFER ▾ HELPFUL LINKS ▾ ABOUT CONTACT US ▾ LOGIN / REGISTER ▾

Language: [En Español](#) | [More](#)

### P-EBT Self Service Portal

#### Privacy & Use of Your Information

We will keep your information private as required by law. Everything you enter in this application will be kept confidential and will be used to administer benefits only. We will use the information provided by you to check your eligibility for benefits only.

#### Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer Highlights

The Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) helps families cover the cost of breakfasts and lunches their children would have been able to receive for free or at a reduced price through the National School Lunch Program. The P-EBT program was re-authorized last year to cover the entire 2020-2021 school year. A new P-EBT program has been approved for Pennsylvania by USDA FNS for the 2021-2022 school year.

System Requirement(s)	Action(s) Recommended
Pop-up Blocker	Turn off Pop-up blocker - <a href="#">Learn More (Google Chrome)</a> Turn off Pop-up blocker - <a href="#">Learn More (Internet Explorer)</a>

Please go to the [DHS](#) website to access additional information related to the P-EBT program.

By checking this box, I certify that all information that is entered is true under penalty of perjury. I know that I may be subject to penalties under federal law if I knowingly provide false and/or untrue information.

[Next](#)

- On the second screen, information must be entered about the school year, school, student and parent. **Important: the information entered on this screen must exactly match the information the school submitted to DHS for the student.** When the screen is complete, click 'Next'.

pennsylvania
PA STATE AGENCIES ▾ PA ONLINE SERVICES ▾
WHAT WE OFFER ▾
HELPFUL LINKS ▾
ABOUT
CONTACT US ▾
LOGIN / REGISTER ▾

## P-EBT Self Service Portal

School Year \*  
 ▾

Please enter the student's information to verify their identity and locate your P-EBT issuance information.

Please locate the student's school

In what county is the student's school? \*

 ▾
 

School type: \*

 ▾
 

If the student goes to public school, please select the school district from the list: \*

 ▾
 

To which school building does the student go? \*

 ▾
 

### Student Information

Student First Name * <input type="text" value="Riar"/>	Student Last Name * <input type="text" value="Mci"/>
Student Middle Name <input type="text"/>	Student Date of Birth * <input type="text" value="05/01/200!"/>

### Guardian Information

Guardian First Name * <input type="text" value="Ali"/>	Guardian Last Name * <input type="text" value="Mci"/>
Guardian Email <input type="text"/>	Guardian Contact Phone Number <input type="text"/>
County of Residence * <input type="text" value="02 - Allegheny"/> ▾	

### P-EBT or EBT Card Number:

If you have your P-EBT or EBT card number, please enter it below:

P-EBT or EBT Card Number:



Click image for larger display

✓
I'm not a robot


Back to Home
Next

- If a match to the student information entered is found in the DHS system and the student is eligible for a P-EBT benefit it will display a screen which details how the benefit was calculated. The parent can request a replacement card from this screen.

## My P-EBT Card

[Request a Replacement P-EBT Card](#)

Welcome to the P-EBT Benefit Dashboard. On this Dashboard, you can review the student's information as recorded and submitted by their school, as well as any benefit information that is currently available.

**Student Information**

<b>First Name</b> Iss	<b>Middle Name</b> Jonathan	<b>Last Name</b> Cle
<b>Date of Birth</b> 11/22/	<b>School Name</b> Area Primary Center	

**P-EBT Benefit Information**

Amount	Expected Issuance Date Range	Months Covered in Issuance	How We Calculated Your Benefit
\$710	05/09/2022-05/20/2022	Sep, Oct, Nov	Number of days out because of COVID-19 * Daily Rate: 1 * \$710 = \$710
\$35.50	06/13/2022-06/24/2022	Dec, Jan, Feb	Number of days out because of COVID-19 * Daily Rate: 5 * \$710 = \$35.50
N/A	07/18/2022-07/29/2022	Mar, Apr, May	N/A
\$391.00	08/15/2022-08/26/2022	Summer	Maximum amount as determined by the United States Department of Agriculture

Please go to the [DHS](#) website to access additional information related to the P-EBT program.

[Back to Home](#)

## Summer 2023 P-EBT Frequently Asked Questions - Schools

### **How does a cyber school differ from a virtual learning program implemented during the pandemic?**

Cyber schools are not eligible for P-EBT because they do not participate in the NSLP. Districts often call their programs cyber or virtual academies, which are not eligible for P-EBT because they do not participate in the school's NSLP agreement and, in most cases, they were established prior to the pandemic. They are typically run separately from the school building classrooms and the students are enrolled in the cyber program.

Virtual learning programs implemented during the pandemic refer to programs that schools put in place to extend learning from their school buildings to children who could not be in school during the pandemic. These students are enrolled in regular classrooms at the building and the building participates in the NSLP. For this reason, free and reduced or CEP students enrolled in these programs may be considered for P-EBT benefits.

### **How much will students receive?**

For summer 2023, eligible students will receive a stipend of \$120, which is the maximum as determined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

### **When will summer 2023 P-EBT benefits be distributed?**

At the end of July 2023 through mid-August 2023. Parents/guardians will receive a letter from DHS prior to the student receiving the summer 2023 P-EBT benefit. The letter will advise the parent/guardian that their child is eligible for the summer benefit and provide answers to frequently asked questions.

### **How will students receive P-EBT funds?**

Children whose families already receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits will receive the P-EBT benefits on the household's regular EBT card, if possible. Otherwise, benefits will be loaded on the P-EBT card the child received for last school year, if possible. If a child cannot be matched against a previous P-EBT issuance for the 2021-2022 school year, a new P-EBT card will be mailed to the student at the current address submitted for the student by the school.

### **What role do schools play?**

Schools that participate in the NSLP must submit a Summer 2023 P-EBT file by July 7, 2023. DHS uses data from these submissions as the sole source to determine P-EBT benefits for students.

Families might contact schools with general P-EBT questions or questions about their child's specific P-EBT benefits.

Schools can assist families with general questions by sharing information from the **Family Guide** on their school website or sending the information via email to parents/guardians.

Schools can assist families with questions about P-EBT benefits for their specific child/children by first confirming the data that was submitted to DHS in the school's Summer 2023 P-EBT file. The school should contact the P-EBT School Helpdesk ([pebt@csc.csiu.org](mailto:pebt@csc.csiu.org) or 800-683-5100) if they find errors in the P-EBT data they submitted for a child. But if the data the school submitted for the child was correct, the school should then guide the parent/guardian to use one of the DHS family P-EBT resources to obtain an answer to their question (see the Family Guide).

**What best practices have schools established to inform parents?**

Many schools post the Family Guide for parents on their school/district website and alert parents/guardians via email, text or auto-call that the P-EBT resource has been posted. Some schools email the Family Guide directly to families. In the communication to parents/guardians it is advisable to mention that DHS is currently sending letters to families of students who are eligible for the P-EBT benefit and that the benefits are due to be issued by DHS beginning in late July into August 2023. Make sure families understand that the Family Guide provides links and information that should help them obtain answers for their P-EBT questions.

**Can P-EBT cards be used at school to purchase school meals?** No. P-EBT benefits can only be used for the same purchases as SNAP, formerly known as food stamps. The card can only be used at approved food retailers, predominantly grocery stores and convenience stores. SNAP benefits and P-EBT cannot be used to purchase hot prepared foods, even at grocery stores and convenience stores.