

2025 Summer EBT/SUN Bucks Benefit Family Letter

What is Summer EBT/SUN Bucks:

In 2024, Summer EBT, or “**SUN Bucks**,” was authorized by a bipartisan U.S. Congress to provide food dollars to low-income families with school-aged children over the summer months. The program will continue for the summer of 2025.

Who is Eligible:

Our school district participated in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program for the 24-25 school year. Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) is a special program that allows National School Lunch Program (NSLP)/School Breakfast Program (SBP) schools in low-income areas to feed all students for free during the school year, regardless of each student’s economic level. However, Summer EBT/SUN Bucks is based on each student’s situation.

Students at CEP schools are not automatically eligible for Summer EBT/SUN Bucks unless they receive SNAP, TANF, or Medical Assistance with income that qualifies them for free/reduced meals or are homeless, runaway, migrant, foster, or in Head Start. If your student receives any of the qualifying benefits listed, he/she is automatically eligible for Summer EBT/SUN Bucks.

If you believe your income qualifies (185% or less of the federal poverty level), **you can apply by submitting an application on the DHS SUN Bucks webpage: dhs.pa.gov/sunbucks.** Applications will be available July 1st and will be received through August 31, 2025.

Families with questions about whether your student is automatically eligible or if you need to apply should use the Eligibility Navigator tool found on the website at dhs.pa.gov/sunbucks.

Students who are homeschooled or are taught virtually for 100% of the school year are ineligible for Summer EBT/SUN Bucks. The only exception is if the child also attends a school building regularly that offers them NSLP/SBP school meals.

Benefit Issuance:

For the summer of 2025, a household will receive a \$120 Summer EBT/SUN Bucks benefit (which equals \$40 for each summer month) for every eligible child in the household.

The benefit will be issued at the household level, meaning if multiple eligible students are in a household, the benefit will be combined into one issuance amount. The benefit will be issued to the family’s existing state EBT card (for SNAP or TANF), on a previously issued SUN Bucks card or on a new SUN Bucks card that is mailed, in most cases, to the household contact and address DHS has on file for that household. **Schools are not able to change this information.** If your SNAP, TANF, or Medical Assistance information needs to be updated, contact your County Assistance Office as soon as possible. If the household does not have a SNAP, TANF, or Medical Assistance case with DHS, the address that the school has on file will be used.

DHS will issue the 2025 Summer EBT/SUN Bucks benefits beginning in mid-July 2025 and benefits are expunged four months after issuance date.

Summer EBT/SUN Bucks Resources for Families:

DHS and their County Assistance Offices offer family support for Summer EBT/SUN Bucks.

The DHS Summer EBT/SUN Bucks webpage for families can be found here:

<http://www.dhs.pa.gov/SunBucks>. This webpage provides information about the benefit, Frequently Asked Questions, the SUN Bucks family application, and an eligibility navigator tool to help families determine if they need to apply.

County Assistance Offices can provide family support for all Summer EBT/SUN Bucks questions. A CAO locator tool is found here:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/services/assistance/pages/cao-contact.aspx>

The Statewide Customer Service Center can be reached by phone at 1-877-395-8930, or 1-215-560-7226 in Philadelphia.

*****Schools cannot assist families with most detailed Summer EBT/SUN Bucks benefit questions. Schools cannot access the state's Summer EBT/SUN Bucks system or records.*****