

Summer EBT Informational Webinar for Partners Questions and Answers

June 21, 2024

Questions and Answers are organized in nine categories:

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Accessibility

Where can someone get an application?

Applications will be made available on Monday, July 1, 2024, through the following websites – (for English) sebt.oregon.gov / (for Spanish) ebtv.oregon.gov.

Applicants can access an online application or download a PDF application that can be completed and emailed to the SummerEBTInfo@odhs.oregon.gov.

What is the information for the SUMMER EBT Call Center?

The Summer EBT Call Center phone number is 1-833-673-7328 (1-833-ORE-SEBT).

The hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Pacific Time, and will be closed on all state-observed holidays.

Callers will have an option to speak to a representative in English and Spanish and can request an interpreter through the phone with any language they need.

Services the Call Center provides include general information, application/case status, provide address updates, EBT card replacements, EBT card balance, information about other ODHS benefits, and the ability to talk to an agent.

Application

Are there any identified community organizations that can help families with their applications?

At this time, no community organization has been identified or dedicated to assist families with the application process. However, applications will be made available online to complete electronically, or download, print and mail/email. A community-based organization's willingness to help a family connect with the application materials is much appreciated.

Distribution

How will families get their benefits?

Benefits will be issued onto the Oregon EBT card that is currently used for SNAP and TANF benefits. If the family already receives SNAP, TANF, or has an existing Oregon EBT card, the Summer EBT benefits will be issued onto this EBT card. If they do not receive SNAP or TANF, benefits for all eligible children in the household will be put on one Oregon EBT card and mailed to the family at the mailing address on file.

Will families that are automatically eligible be notified that they will be getting those benefits automatically, so they know they don't have to apply?

Yes, eligible students will receive a notice in the mail in June or in the first part of July.

Is this a one-time allotment of \$120 or a monthly allotment of \$40 for each child? What about if they apply later in the summer months – will it be prorated?

Each eligible child will be issued a one-time payment of \$120 no matter when they apply or are found eligible. The application period closes September 2, 2024. The benefits will not be prorated. Summer EBT Benefits will be issued for each eligible child onto the same Oregon EBT card that is used for SNAP and TANF benefits. If they do not have an existing EBT card, one will be sent to the mailing address on file.

How long do they have to use the benefits? If cards get lost or misplaced, can they get an extension for their expiration?

Unused Summer EBT benefits expire 122 days after their issuance. There is no extension of benefits should the cards be lost or misplaced. Families are encouraged to immediately report their cards as lost or stolen and request a replacement EBT card

by calling the Summer EBT Call Center at 1-833-673-7328 (1-833-ORE-SEBT) or by going to an office that distributes Oregon EBT cards.

Can families get a replacement of benefits if they are stolen?

No. At this time Summer EBT benefits may only be replaced if the family experiences a disaster (such as a house fire) or misfortune (such as the loss of food due to an electrical outage). It does not include electronic theft (skimming).

Can Summer EBT benefits be used as part of the Double Up Food Bucks at farmer's markets or with online retailers?

Yes, Summer EBT benefits will be issued onto the same Oregon EBT card used for SNAP and TANF benefits. They may be used for food purchases at all the same retailers that the EBT card is accepted. This includes food bought online through Amazon and Walmart (delivery fees not included). Summer EBT benefits also can be used in the Double Up Food Bucks program, which matches every \$1 of benefits spent up to \$10 on fresh fruit and vegetables at participating local farmers markets. Any Summer EBT benefits that are issued onto an EBT card will be automatically withdrawn before any SNAP or TANF allotments.

Eligibility

Could you clarify who are considered automatically eligible (not needing to do a separate application for Summer EBT) and those who may be eligible via application?

School-aged children (ages 6-18) who qualify for public assistance do not need to submit an application for Summer EBT. They will automatically be eligible for the benefit. These include students who receive SNAP of more than \$0, TANF, Medicaid (with income under 185% of the federal poverty level) or are in foster care through Child Welfare.

In addition, students (any age) enrolled in a NSLP/SBP school during the 2023-2024 school year are automatically eligible and do not need to turn in an application if they:

- are determined eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals at school
- are determined by the school as experiencing houselessness (Title X)
- are determined by the school as migrant
- are determined by the school to be considered missing or runaway
- receive the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservation (FDPIR)
- are in Head Start Preschool

Schools will need to provide information for students who are eligible through these programs.

Those students who may be eligible through the submission of a Summer EBT application are students (any age) enrolled in a NSLP/SBP school and are income eligible due to their household income being under 185% of the federal poverty level.

What about students who attend school from Head Start or K-12 and they are outside of the age range of 6-18 years old – do they qualify?

Children under the age of 6 or over age 18 during the 2023-2024 school year are not automatically eligible because of their participation in public assistance (SNAP, TANF, Medicaid or Foster Care). This is because they are not considered "school aged" which in Oregon is the compulsory school age of 6-18.

However, children under 6 (and over 18) may be eligible for Summer EBT if they are enrolled in a NSLP/SBP school and eligible because they:

- are determined eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals at school
- are determined by the school as experiencing houselessness (Title X)
- are determined by the school as migrant
- are determined by the school to be considered runaway
- receive the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservation (FDPIR)
- are in Head Start Preschool
- are determined eligible through the Summer EBT application

What if the student/child is emancipated?

Summer EBT benefits are for the children, not the parents. If the emancipated child/youth is between 6-18 and meet the program criteria, they will receive an EBT card to use in their name.

Are preschool children who attend a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) participating school (like Preschool Promise) eligible for Summer EBT?

Only students who attend a Head Start school and participate in the NSLP are automatically eligible. Also, they may be automatically eligible if their family receives SNAP of more than \$0, TANF, Medicaid (with income under 185% of the federal poverty level) or are in foster care through Child Welfare.

If our school is a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) school, will the students be automatically eligible for Summer EBT?

The CEP status of schools does not impact whether a student is automatically eligible for Summer EBT. Also, students who attend a CEP school are not automatically eligible for Summer EBT benefits.

To be automatically eligible, students will need to have received SNAP of more than \$0, TANF, Medicaid (with income under 185% of the federal poverty level) or be in foster care through Child Welfare during the school year 2023-2024.

Children under 6 (and over 18) may be eligible for Summer EBT if they are enrolled in a NSLP/SBP school and eligible because they:

- are determined by the school as experiencing homelessness (Title X)
- are determined by the school as migrant
- are determined by the school to be considered runaway
- receive the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservation (FDPIR)
- are in Head Start Preschool
- are determined eligible through the Summer EBT application

They may also apply to see if they qualify to receive Summer EBT benefits based on enrollment in a NSLP/SBP school and are income eligible due to their household income being under 185% of the federal poverty level.

Outreach

Where do we find this webinar, fliers and other materials to share with the families?

Materials can be found on the Summer EBT website at sebt.oregon.gov under the “Resources for partners” button. New materials are coming on July 1, 2024.

Where can we find the list of NSLP schools?

There will be a list of NSLP schools that will be posted within Frequently Asked Questions at sebt.oregon.gov.

Schools

When ODHS or ODE are trying to determine eligibility of a student with a new application will they reach out to the school district point of contact by phone or email?

Verification requests will be primarily made through the Summer EBT School System Portal.

Will there be a training for the Schools' Points of Contact?

Yes. Training will be provided to the Points of Contact (POCs) on July 2, 2024 and a repeat of this training will be held on July 9, 2024. The training will cover the system, processes, and expectations of a School Point of Contact (POC).

Systems

When will the School System Portal be active and how will we upload the information regarding homeless/houseless, migrant, missing/runaway, Head Start, and FDPIR statuses?

The School System Portal will be active on July 1, 2024. Training and information will be provided at the Point of Contact (POC) training which will be held on July 2, 2024 and repeated on July 9, 2024.