

Kentucky Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer-Spring 2022

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)?

P-EBT provides a reimbursement to households with children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals through the USDA National School Lunch Program (NSLP). P-EBT provides a card families can use to replace school meals when they have to miss school for a COVID-19 related reason.

Who is eligible for the P-EBT Reimbursement ?

- School children who are eligible for free or reduced price school meals under the NSLP between September 2021 and May 2022 who miss in-person learning at school due to COVID-19 related reasons, or have to be on a virtual-only learning schedule due to a COVID-19 related reason for **five (5) or more consecutive days**.
 - Each month, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) re-evaluates all students who are currently eligible for free or reduced price school meals to ensure an accurate list of all eligible students.
 - Students who miss less than 5 days of in-person learning can still receive the P-EBT reimbursement, but must apply for a reconsideration to receive the reimbursement. Please reference the reconsideration question below for more details.

How do I apply for P-EBT?

No application is required. Eligible students are automatically approved.

How much is the provided P-EBT reimbursement?

The provided P-EBT reimbursement depends on how many in-person learning days the child had to miss due to a COVID-19 related reason. The child's reimbursement is the number of school days missed, multiplied by \$7.10.

Can I apply for a reconsideration if I did not receive P-EBT, or if the P-EBT amount provided is not correct?

The following students can request a reconsideration:

1. Students who do not agree with the number of P-EBT eligible days reported by their school.
2. Students who missed less than 5 consecutive days of in-person school attendance who want to receive a P-EBT reimbursement for the missed days.

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To request a reconsideration, the parent/guardian must call (855) 306-8959. Once a reconsideration is requested, the request is reviewed and upon review is either approved or denied. If approved, a reimbursement equivalent to the number of eligible days multiplied by \$7.10 will be issued to the student's P-EBT account. For example, if a student only missed 4 consecutive days of school and calls for a reconsideration and is approved, the child receives \$7.10 multiplied times 4, or \$28.40. All individuals should request a reconsideration by **August 10, 2022.**

If the child has already received a P-EBT reimbursement for the month in which a reconsideration is requested, and through the reconsideration process an additional amount of P-EBT is approved, only the additional approved amount is issued. **A duplicate reimbursement is not provided for any given month.** For example, if the student is initially provided 5 days of P-EBT reimbursement, but the child missed 7 days of school and applies for a reconsideration and is approved, the child is only issued for the remaining 2 days, or an additional \$14.20 through reconsideration.

When a parent/guardian calls for a reconsideration, the call center obtains verbal consent to the following statement prior to submitting the reconsideration for review to ensure the requestor is accurately reporting the correct number of days missed:

"I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that the dates specified in my application are days that my child did not attend school in person for a school-approved COVID-related reason. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits, and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."

Reconsiderations can only be requested for the Spring 2022 P-EBT reimbursements being issued. Reconsiderations cannot be requested for past P-EBT reimbursements.

How will I receive my P-EBT reimbursement?

- At the time the P-EBT reimbursement is issued, if the student is on an active SNAP case the P-EBT reimbursement is issued on the EBT card associated with the child's active SNAP case.
- At the time the P-EBT reimbursement is issued if the student is not part of an active SNAP case, a check is made to see if the child has received P-EBT in the past. If the child has received P-EBT in the past, the P-EBT reimbursement is issued on the same P-EBT card in which the child previously received P-EBT. If the child has not received P-EBT

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in the past, a P-EBT card will be issued to the child with their P-EBT issuance amount pre-loaded on the card.

What months does the Spring 2022 P-EBT cover?

The Spring 2022 P-EBT period covers from September 2021 to May 2022.

When will I receive my P-EBT Reimbursement ?

- All students who were P-EBT eligible during the months of September 2021-December 2021 and/or January 2022-February 2022 will receive their P-EBT reimbursement on or around May 25, 2022.
- All students who were P-EBT eligible during the months of March-May 2022, students enrolled in schools who had not previously reported attendance data to the Division of Family Support (DFS), and students who request reconsiderations due to underreported initial data will receive their P-EBT reimbursement on or around June 25, 2022.

How can I get help with P-EBT?

Please call toll free 1-855-306-8959 and select Healthcare and Food Benefits option if you need assistance.

What if I need a P-EBT card, or need a replacement for a lost P-EBT card?

For P-EBT cards, if your address has changed since you last received a P-EBT card, call the help desk toll free at (855) 306-8959 to request a new or replacement card. If your address has not changed since you last received a P-EBT card, call the automated line toll free at (888) 979-9949.

To receive a replacement SNAP EBT card, call (855) 306-8959 and request a new card.

When a new P-EBT card is received, individuals must follow all instructions on the **P-EBT Card Registration One Pager** to activate the card for use. Please note that the child's date of birth is always the activation code to activate your new P-EBT card. If the child's date of birth does not work as the activation code, individuals must call FIS Customer Service at 1-888-979-9949 and stay on the line until they reach a customer service representative. FIS Customer Service will ensure the date of birth being used is correct and is being entered in the correct format.

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Is P-EBT a public assistance program?

No. P-EBT helps reimburse families facing unexpected new expenses of meals at home for a student who normally would have received free/reduced-price meals at school through the NSLP, or would have received meals at their child care facility.

Is P-EBT the same as SNAP (formerly known as Food Stamps)?

No, P-EBT is separate from SNAP.

Are homeschool children or children on a virtual-only learning schedule eligible for P-EBT?

No. Only children who are enrolled in in-person public or private school where they receive free/reduced price meals through the NSLP.

Will Head Start students receive a Spring 2022 P-EBT reimbursement?

Head Start Students who are eligible for free or reduced price school meals under the NSLP between September 2021 and May 2022 who miss school due to a COVID-19 related reason for five (5) or more consecutive days are eligible for a P-EBT reimbursement.

Can the Spring 2022 P-EBT reimbursement be split between households?

No. The reimbursement will be issued to each child based on the most recent address available. It is important to remember that the reimbursement is for the child and provided to the parent or guardian purchasing food for the child.

What can I buy with the P-EBT?

Any food for the household, such as:

- Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, poultry, fish
- Dairy products
- Breads and cereals
- Snack foods and non-alcoholic beverages
- Seeds and plants which produce food for the child to eat

Households **may not** use the P-EBT reimbursement to buy:

- Beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes, tobacco
- Vitamins, medicines, supplements
Items with a supplement facts label are considered supplements and not eligible for P-EBT purchase.
- Live animals (except shellfish, fish removed from water and animals slaughtered prior to pick-up from the store).

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- Prepared foods fit for immediate consumption
- Hot foods
- Nonfood items such as:
 - Pet foods
 - Cleaning supplies, paper products and other household supplies.
 - Hygiene items, cosmetics

Do I have to purchase items only in Kentucky?

No, you may use your P-EBT card anywhere EBT is accepted.

Can I purchase items online?

Yes, you may use your P-EBT card to make online purchases at participating retailers. Please refer to retailer websites for more information.

How long do I have to spend my P-EBT reimbursement?

Your P-EBT reimbursement will remain active on your card as long as you use some of them at least once every 9 months.

If I receive P-EBT will it affect my eligibility for other public assistance programs?

No. P-EBT is an additional service and will not affect your eligibility for other public assistance programs. We encourage families to continue using school and community meal sites for free, nutritious meals for children. Families can go online to [Meals for Kids interactive map](#) for local sites where kids can get free meals.

Will P-EBT hurt my ability to change my immigration status or become a US citizen?

No. Receipt of P-EBT is not considered for any immigration determination.

What information is needed to activate my P-EBT card?

You must enter the date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY) of the person whose name is on the card and zip code where the card was mailed. The birth date must be entered in the following format: MMDDYYYY.

What does the P-EBT card look like?

