

Need a little help feeding your kids when school is out for summer?

## Learn how the new Summer EBT Program can help you!

Summer EBT is a new federal program to help families buy food for their school-aged children during the summer. Families will receive \$120 for each eligible child to buy groceries during the summer. Children who receive Summer EBT benefits can still participate in other summer meal programs. Receiving benefits will not affect children or families' immigration status.



### How does Summer EBT work?

In New Jersey, Summer EBT benefits will be loaded onto an EBT card and mailed to your home. If eligible, you can use the benefits to buy food like fruits, vegetables, meat, whole grains, and dairy at grocery stores, farmers markets, and other places that accept WIC or SNAP EBT benefits. Summer EBT is a convenient way for you to help your children thrive.

Recently moved? Or do one of these programs have an old address for you?

Update your address with your local school district to ensure that your Summer EBT card is sent to the correct address!

### Is my child eligible for Summer EBT?

Your child is eligible for Summer EBT benefits if:

- Your household already receives SNAP, TANF, or Foster Care benefits,
- OR
- Your child attends a school that participates in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program, **and** your household income meets the requirements for federal free or federal reduced price school meals.



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. For more information, visit: [www.fns.usda.gov/summer](http://www.fns.usda.gov/summer)

The Summer EBT Program in NJ is made possible with funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, and the New Jersey Food Security Initiative (NJFSI) through the Food Research and Action Center (FRAC) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.



## How do I apply for Summer EBT benefits in NJ?

Many families will get **Summer EBT benefits automatically** if they are getting other benefits, but some families may need to apply for the program. If you have not done so already this school year, please fill out a free and reduced meal application by **April 19, 2024**.

### Instructions on how to apply:

If you have not done so already, you can still apply for free or reduced meals by submitting a free and reduced meal application in one of three ways:

1. Online at [payschoolscentral.com](https://payschoolscentral.com). Make sure to choose **Twp of Union BOE** as the school district.
2. Go to the [Food & Nutrition](#) page of our district's website and print an application. Fill it out completely, sign and date it and have your child bring it to school.
3. Pick up a hard copy of the application in the main office of your child's school, fill it out completely, sign and date it and have your child bring it to school.

If your household already gets SNAP, TANF, or Foster Care benefits, your child is automatically eligible and will get the Summer EBT benefit. You **do not** need to fill out an application, but make sure your local school district has your current address on file. You will receive a NJ Summer EBT card in the mail. Watch for the card in the mail in mid to late June.

If your household already completed a School Meals Application and your child was approved for Federal Free or Federal Reduced Price School Meals, your child is automatically eligible and will get the Summer EBT benefit. You **do not** need to fill out another application, but make sure your local school district has your current address on file. You will receive a NJ Summer EBT card in the mail. Watch for the card in the mail in June.

If your child is not automatically eligible, and you did not complete and return a School Meals Application to your child's school, but believe your child may qualify, you are encouraged to complete a School Meals Application and submit it to your local school district **no later than April 19, 2024**, to see if you qualify for the Federal Summer EBT benefit prior to the start of summer.

Applications will still be accepted throughout the summer. To apply for Summer EBT benefits, follow the directions in the orange box above and to the left.

**For questions about Summer EBT, please contact Laura DiGeso, the District Food Service Coordinator, via email at [ldigeso@twpunionschools.org](mailto:ldigeso@twpunionschools.org).**



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