

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Enrolled students (up to 21 years of age) in families that temporarily lost access to free or reduced-price school meals for the 2020–2021 school year due to the COVID-19 pandemic may be eligible to receive Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT). P-EBT benefits can be used to buy food from any retailer that accepts the Lone Star Card.



The application for P-EBT will open **June 2, 2021**. Go to yourtexasbenefits.com/Learn/PEBT to apply. The application link is case-sensitive. The deadline to apply is **Aug. 13, 2021**.

Who Needs to Apply?

- A parent/guardian **must apply** if eligible child is:
 - Enrolled in K-12 and NOT part of a family who received SNAP benefits for at least one month between August 2020 and June 2021.
 - Born on or before Aug. 1, 2014, and is part of a family who received SNAP benefits for the first time during the 2020–2021 school year in May or June 2021.

- A parent/guardian **does not have to apply** if eligible child is:
 - Born on or before Aug. 1, 2014, and is part of a family who received SNAP benefits for at least one month between August 2020 and April 2021.
 - Born after Aug. 1, 2014, and is part of a family who received SNAP benefits for at least one month between October 2020 and June 2021.

For more information about eligibility, applying and getting your P-EBT benefits, visit hhs.texas.gov/pebt, or call the P-EBT Call Center at 833-442-1255, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.–6 p.m. Central time.

Sincerely,

J. Reese Briggs

Superintendent

Hemphill ISD

Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT)

P-EBT is a food benefit for families with children who temporarily lost access to free or reduced-price meals at school during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Schools will send families a link to the application so they can apply once it is open. For more information, visit hhs.texas.gov/pebt or call the P-EBT Call Center at **833-442-1255**.

P-EBT is for families with children who meet one of the following criteria:

- ✓ Up to 21 years old and certified for free or reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) at a school in Texas during the 2020–2021 school year.
- ✓ Up to 21 years old and attend a Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) or Provision 2 (P2) school that offers free meals to all students.
- ✓ Born after Aug. 1, 2014, in families who received SNAP benefits for at least one month between October 2020 and June 2021.

What can families buy with P-EBT funds?



Household food items, such as fruits, meats/poultry/fish, dairy and breads. P-EBT benefits can be used wherever SNAP food benefits are accepted.

Who needs to complete an online application?

- Eligible students in families who did not receive SNAP benefits for at least one month during the 2020–2021 school year.
- Eligible students born on or before Aug. 1, 2014, in families who received SNAP benefits for the first time during the 2020–2021 school year in May or June 2021.

The following items are required on the P-EBT application:

1. Parent/legal guardian name, date of birth and sex
2. Physical address
3. Child's name, date of birth, sex, school district county, school district and campus name
4. Public school students must provide either their Social Security number or state-assigned number (S-number)

It is important to put a valid phone number on the application because staff may need to call you before approving the application.

How will eligible families get P-EBT benefits?

- Families who got SNAP benefits during the 2020–2021 school year will have P-EBT benefits loaded on their current Lone Star Card.
- Families who did not get SNAP benefits during the 2020–2021 school year will have a P-EBT Card with funds mailed to them.

If a family believes a child was incorrectly denied P-EBT benefits, who do they contact?

Call the P-EBT Call Center at **833-442-1255** or visit yourtexasbenefits.com/Learn/initiatereview/ June 21 through Sept. 10, 2021. You will need to provide the Application ID on the top of the notice you received in the mail.