



# Extra Food Benefits During an Extra Hard Time

More breakfasts. More lunches. P-EBT provides *additional* food support to eligible families that have been impacted by the pandemic.

## Here's What You Need to Know:

These benefits:

- Do NOT affect immigration. The program does not report anyone to immigration services for buying food with this card nor will anyone using this card be considered a public charge.
- Do NOT affect other benefits. You can still get free or reduced school meals.
- Do NOT affect your taxes. You don't need to claim them as income.
- DO expire, so make sure you use them at least once every year.
- Do NOT require an application. P-EBT eligibility is based on getting CalFresh Food benefits or individual or school eligibility for free or reduced price school meals, as well as attending school via distance learning

**Don't throw your card away!** New benefits get added to your card at scheduled intervals.

## Who Gets a P-EBT Card:

Students enrolled in free or reduced price school meals at a school participating in the National School Lunch or Breakfast Programs for the 2020-21 school year and are assumed to have attended school via distance learning or a hybrid of both distance learning and in person learning, and young children aged 0-6 years old who got CalFresh Food benefits. Cards will be sent out by age and first name, so don't worry if one child gets their card before another.

- Children aged 0-6 years old who got CalFresh Food benefits between October 2020 and January 2021, will start getting their cards in **early July through August**. Young children who got CalFresh Food benefits between February 2020 and May 2021, will get their cards later.
- Students TK-12 who were enrolled in free or reduced price school meals at a school participating in the National School Lunch or Breakfast Programs for the 2020-21 school year and are assumed to have attended school via distance learning, at least some of that time, will start getting their cards in **early September through November**.

Children eligible for free school meals based on their attendance at a school where all children can get free breakfast, lunch, or both, may also get P-EBT benefits. This is true even if the child did not individually apply for free or reduced price school meals.

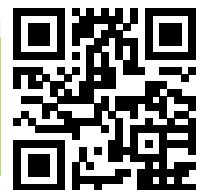
## How to Use Your P-EBT Cards:

After the P-EBT debit card arrives in the mail, you will need to activate the card before using it.

1. Follow the instructions to create a personal PIN number. Call the **P-EBT Helpline** at **(877) 328-9677**.
2. Shop at the same places that take CalFresh Food Benefits. This includes: most grocery stores, most farmers markets, and online at Amazon®, Walmart®, and other retailers.
3. Pay by selecting "EBT" at checkout. You can use multiple cards to cover one purchase.



Use the QR code to learn what foods are covered.



Questions? Call the **P-EBT Helpline** at **(877) 328-9677** or visit **ca.p-ebt.org**

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