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NCDHHS

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NCDHHS to Continue to Provide Extra Help Buying Food for Approximately 860,000 Children Through P-EBT

NCDHHS continuará brindando ayuda adicional para comprar alimentos para aproximadamente 860,000 niños a través del programa P-EBT

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services in partnership with NC Department of Public Instruction today announced it will begin issuing additional benefits on Feb. 19, 2021 through the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program. These benefits will be received over several days starting Friday for those who already have an EBT card for Food and Nutrition Services or P-EBT benefits.

RALEIGH

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services in partnership with NC Department of Public Instruction today announced it will begin issuing additional benefits on Feb. 19, 2021 through the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program. (https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/information/human-services/pandemic-electronic-benefit-transfer-p-ebt-program?mc_cid=63bb840199&mc_eid=UNIQID) These benefits will be received over several days starting Friday for those who already have an EBT card for Food and Nutrition Services (/divisions/child-and-family-well-being/food-and-nutrition-services-food-stamps) or P-EBT benefits.

The P-EBT program (https://governor.nc.gov/news/ncdhhs-provide-additional-food-benefits-more-800000-children-impacted-covid-19-pandemic?mc_cid=63bb840199&mc_eid=UNIQID) helps families purchase food for children whose access to free and reduced-price meals at school has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program provides a benefit on an EBT card that can be used to buy food at authorized food and grocery retailers, including most major grocery stores.

“Having enough healthy food every day is an essential part of children’s health and well-being,” said NCDHHS Deputy Secretary for Human Services Tara Myers. “The P-EBT program provides families essential help buying groceries for children who would normally have access to free and reduced lunch at school.”

Families do not need to apply for P-EBT. Eligibility criteria are based on requirements from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. (https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/state-guidance-coronavirus-pandemic-ebt-pebt?mc_cid=63bb840199&mc_eid=UNIQID) A school-aged child is eligible if their school participates in the

National School Lunch Program and the student is eligible to receive free or reduced-price meals during the 2020-21 school year. Also, the student's school must have been closed or has been operating with reduced attendance for at least five consecutive days during the 2020-2021 school year as a result of COVID-19. The student must also be learning in a fully remote (all virtual) and or in a hybrid (combination of virtual and in-person) learning mode during the month. An eligible student can receive one of two distinct benefit amounts depending on if they are identified as being in a remote learning mode or a hybrid learning mode.

P-EBT benefits received in February 2021 will be for the months of August to December 2020 for those students who are eligible. Those who do not have a P-EBT card and are eligible during these months should anticipate receiving their cards in February or March. The total amount of P-EBT benefits put on a card will not be received at one time; benefits will be spread out over several days to avoid overwhelming those stores that accept EBT. P-EBT benefits will be issued retroactively in a monthly issuance starting in March as long as the child remains eligible.

Eligible families already receiving FNS benefits can expect to receive the P-EBT benefit on their existing EBT card. (/divisions/child-and-family-well-being/food-and-nutrition-services-food-stamps/electronic-benefit-transfer) Families who already have a P-EBT card from last school year and are eligible under the new criteria can expect to receive the benefit on their original P-EBT card. Eligible families who do not have an FNS or P-EBT card will be mailed a card.

If someone has lost or destroyed their original P-EBT card, they can order a new card at www.ebtedge.com, (https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov

/information/human-services/pandemic-electronic-benefit-transfer-p-ebt-program?mc_cid=63bb840199&mc_eid=UNIQID) on the EBT Edge mobile app or by contacting the North Carolina EBT Call Center at 1-866-719-0141. P-EBT benefits are entirely federally funded. More information about the P-EBT program can be found at www.ncdhhs.gov/PEBT (/PEBT). For the latest information on COVID-19, visit nc.gov/covid19. (https://www.nc.gov/covid19)

Individuals with questions about applying for free or reduced-price meals should contact their children's school for more information.

El Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Carolina del Norte, en asociación con el Departamento de Instrucción Pública de Carolina del Norte, anunció hoy que comenzará a emitir beneficios adicionales en febrero. 19, 2021 a través del programa Transferencia electrónica de beneficios debido a la pandemia (P-EBT por sus siglas en inglés). (https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/information/human-services/pandemic-electronic-benefit-transfer-p-ebt-program?mc_cid=63bb840199&mc_eid=UNIQID) Estos beneficios se recibirán durante varios días a partir del viernes para aquellos que ya tienen una tarjeta EBT para Servicios de alimentos y nutrición (/divisions/child-and-family-well-being/food-and-nutrition-services-food-stamps) o beneficios P-EBT.

El programa P-EBT (https://governor.nc.gov/news/ncdhhs-provide-additional-food-benefits-more-800000-children-impacted-covid-19-pandemic?mc_cid=63bb840199&mc_eid=UNIQID) ayuda a las familias a comprar alimentos para niños a quienes el acceso a comidas gratuitas y a precio reducido en la escuela se ha visto afectado por la pandemia de COVID-19. El programa ofrece un

beneficio en una tarjeta EBT que se puede utilizar para comprar alimentos en tiendas minoristas de alimentos y comestibles autorizados, incluidas la mayoría de las principales tiendas de comestibles.

"Tener suficiente comida saludable todos los días es una parte esencial de la salud y el bienestar de los niños", dijo la subsecretaria de Servicios Humanos de NCDHHS, Tara Myers. "El programa P-EBT brinda a las familias ayuda esencial para comprar alimentos para los niños que normalmente tendrían acceso a almuerzos gratis o reducidos en la escuela".

Las familias no necesitan solicitar P-EBT. Los criterios de elegibilidad se basan en los requisitos del Departamento de Agricultura de EE. UU. (https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/state-guidance-coronavirus-pandemic-ebt-pebt?mc_cid=63bb840199&mc_eid=UNIQID)Un niño en edad escolar es elegible si su escuela participa en el Programa Nacional de Almuerzos Escolares y el estudiante es elegible para recibir comidas gratuitas o de precio reducido durante el año escolar 2020-21. Además, la escuela del estudiante debe haber estado cerrada o haber estado funcionando con asistencia reducida durante al menos cinco días consecutivos durante el año escolar 2020-2021 debido al COVID-19. El estudiante también debe estar aprendiendo en un modo de aprendizaje completamente remoto (todo virtual) o híbrido (combinación de virtual y en persona) durante el mes. Un estudiante elegible puede recibir uno de dos montos de beneficios distintos dependiendo de si se identifica como estudiante de aprendizaje remoto o aprendizaje híbrido.

Los beneficios de P-EBT recibidos en febrero de 2021 serán para los meses de agosto a diciembre de 2020 para aquellos estudiantes que

sean elegibles. Aquellos que no tienen una tarjeta P-EBT y son elegibles durante estos meses deben anticipar recibir sus tarjetas en febrero o marzo. La cantidad total de beneficios P-EBT en la tarjeta no se recibirá todo en una vez; los beneficios se distribuirán durante varios días para evitar abrumar a las tiendas que aceptan EBT. Los beneficios P-EBT se emitirán de forma retroactiva en una emisión mensual a partir de marzo, siempre que el niño siga siendo elegible.

Las familias elegibles que ya reciben beneficios FNS pueden esperar recibir el beneficio P-EBT en su tarjeta EBT actual. (/divisions/child-and-family-well-being/food-and-nutrition-services-food-stamps/electronic-benefit-transfer)Las familias que ya tienen una tarjeta P-EBT del año escolar pasado y son elegibles bajo los nuevos criterios pueden esperar recibir el beneficio en su tarjeta P-EBT original. Las familias elegibles que no tengan una tarjeta FNS o P-EBT recibirán una tarjeta por correo.

Si alguien ha perdido o destruido su tarjeta P-EBT original, puede solicitar una nueva en el sitio: www.ebtedge.com, (https://www.ebtedge.com/gov/portal/PortalHome.do?mc_cid=63bb840199&mc_eid=UNIQID) en la aplicación móvil EBT Edge o comunicándose con el Centro de llamadas de EBT de Carolina del Norte al 1- 866-719-0141. Los beneficios de P-EBT están financiados en su totalidad por el gobierno federal. Puede encontrar más información sobre el programa P-EBT en www.ncdhhs.gov/PEBT. (/divisions/public-health/covid19/assistance/pandemic-electronic-benefit-transfer-p-ebt-program) Para obtener la información más reciente sobre COVID-19, visite: nc.gov/covid19. (https://www.nc.gov/covid19?mc_cid=63bb840199&mc_eid=UNIQID)

Las personas que tengan preguntas sobre cómo solicitar comidas gratuitas o de precio reducido deben comunicarse con la escuela de sus hijos para obtener más información.

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