

Summer-EBT Guidance (SEBT)

Ohio's Summer EBT program, also known as SUN Bucks, is a benefit program for households to receive funds for food for school-aged children when school is not in session. Households receive \$120 for each eligible child to use at grocery stores where EBT is accepted. Students who attend a school that operates the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and qualify for free or reduced-price meals are eligible to receive this benefit. Eligibility for free or reduced-price school meals must be established annually.

How Summer EBT/ SUN Bucks Works

The \$120 annual Summer EBT benefit will be sent to households identified as participation in SNAP, Ohio Works First (OWF), some income-based Medicaid, and to those who have been approved for eligibility based on a meal benefit application. **Any students approved for school meals after April 1st, 2026 must also apply for SEBT by going directly to <https://sebt.ohio.gov/apply/> in order to receive the SEBT benefit.** You can check to confirm if you **are** already eligible by going to this website as well. You may apply online **for SEBT** until **August 14th, 2026**. If you choose to complete the Summer EBT application, it is **only** for Summer EBT and **is not** an application for free or reduced school meals.

How Will Households Receive Summer EBT Benefits:

Children who qualify for the Summer EBT program will receive benefits in one of three ways:

- Households that currently receive SNAP benefits will see benefits for each eligible child issued on their Ohio Direction Card.
- Households that do not currently receive SNAP benefits but received Summer EBT benefits in Summer 2025 will receive benefits on their existing Summer EBT card.
- Households that do not currently receive SNAP benefits or are newly eligible will receive a new Summer EBT card in the mail for each approved child. The card will be in a plain white envelope and addressed to the child. Households should keep Summer EBT cards to potentially receive future summer benefits.

When Will Benefits Be Available:

Households with children already participating in SNAP, OWF, Medicaid with household income within the free or reduced-price school meal guidelines or certified for free or reduced-price school meals during the school year will begin to receive their benefit in June.

Note: benefits will be issued over multiple months so children in the same household may receive their benefit on a different day from one another.

Households that become eligible for SNAP, OWF, or Medicaid during the summer, or apply for Summer EBT using the Summer EBT application will receive benefits within two months after being approved.

*****ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING SEBT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

- **General Summer EBT support questions: 1-866-244-0071, option 1**
- Summer EBT card support: 1-866-386-3071
- [Sebt.ohio.gov](https://sebt.ohio.gov) (Valuable information can be found here!)

In addition to Summer EBT, children under 18 years of age in your household can also receive free meals during the summer at a summer meal site. You can call 1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE (or text 914-342-7744 with the keyword "summer meals") to find the location closest to you.