

Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)

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Ohio Job and Family Services

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School Eligibility First

A school child is eligible for P-EBT if two conditions are met:

- The child does not receive free or reduced-price meals at the school because the school is closed **OR** operating remote learning* **OR** has been operating with reduced attendance or hours (*includes hybrid schedules*) for at least 5 consecutive days; **and**
- The child would have received free or reduced-price meals under NSLP or SBP if not for the COVID health emergency.

*remote learning does not include online virtual schools

Online Virtual Schools v. Remote Learning

- **Online virtual school** – if all of the following criteria are met:
 - Separate and distinct IRN from other school buildings in the district;
 - IRN is not affiliated with a physical building;
 - Permanent option (not in place through the COVID-19 pandemic only);
 - Students do not have an option to show up in person at a school building; and
 - The school is not eligible to operate NSLP.
- **Remote learning option**
 - Option is available due to COVID-19 public health emergency
 - Child still enrolled in the physical school building
 - Students are eligible to receive free or reduced price meals through the school
 - Students will return to the building whenever the school decides to stop remote learning

Examples of Eligible School Status

- Entire school is remote learning;
- Hybrid learning schedules. Examples:
 - Remote learning M, W, F and in-person T, Th
 - Remote learning one week, in-person other week
- Children have the option of attending fully remote learning from the school district even though the school may be operating fully in-person;
- Children who normally attend school in-person full time but have had to quarantine due to COVID for at least 5 consecutive days – *one child in quarantine makes the school eligible.*

Summary of Criteria

School

- School has operated on a non-standard schedule for at least 5 consecutive days due to COVID ***and*** meals are not provided to eat at school

Child

- Child is eligible for free or reduced-price meals

Days *Eligible* for P-EBT Benefits

Once the school criteria has been met and the child has NSLP eligibility, the child is eligible for P-EBT benefits for the days he or she:

- Does not attend school in person (*e.g. remote learning or closed a certain day of the week as part of a reduced attendance schedule*), or
- Attends school in person but does not receive a meal at school to eat **at school** (*e.g. children attend in-person for 3 hours but no meal service is provided to eat at school*), or
- Is quarantined for more than 5 consecutive days, or
- Snow days where the school switches to remote learning

Days *Ineligible* for P-EBT Benefits

The following are not eligible for P-EBT benefits are:

- Weekends
- Holidays
- Scheduled school breaks and days off not related to COVID (e.g. Christmas break, spring break, teacher in-service days)
- Snow days where there is *no instruction occurring remotely or in-person*
- Any days a child attends school in-person and receives a meal (breakfast or lunch) to eat at school

Resources for Families

- <http://ohiopebt.org/> (Ohio Association of Foodbanks)
- <https://jfs.ohio.gov/ofam/p-ebt.stm> (Ohio Dept. of Job and Family Services)
 - P-EBT Questions and Answers for Families (will be updated soon to reflect this school year's information)
 - P-EBT Card Buckslip (instructions for the P-EBT card)
 - All documents will be translated into 6 other languages (Spanish, Somali, Mandarin, Arabic, Russian and French)

P-EBT: Ohio Department of Education Resources

Brigette Hires

September 2021

Question and Answer Resource

- <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Food-and-Nutrition/School-Year-2021-2022-Pandemic-Electronic-Benefits>
- Education.ohio.gov
 - Search Pandemic electronic

Common Questions

- Students attending a 100% online school (even if operated by a district) with no building affiliation are not eligible for P-EBT (question 8)
- Eligibility starts from the date an application was received or the date of a direct certification match (question 7)
- Even though all students are receiving no-cost meals under Seamless Summer, the school must determine free or reduced eligibility for P-EBT (question 4)
- Students eligible in 2020-2021 through direct certification must have a new 2021-2022 eligibility to continue with P-EBT (question 4)

Common Questions

- Quarantine days may be counted (question 2)
- Students may be “high school grade” or below and receive P-EBT, not affiliated with a specific age (NSLP regulations)
- Withdrawn free or reduced students may be submitted for qualifying days up to the date of withdraw

P-EBT Data

Melissa Balbaugh

Management Council

Student Data

- Only previous months will be accepted
- Do not remove columns from the template
- **Do not filter or sort data.** If this is done incorrectly, it can result in students receiving a new PEBT card and potentially an overpayment.
- Do not change the student's name. If the student has a legal name change, contact support.
- If the student has punctuation in his/her name, it must be submitted the same each month to ensure funds continue to be applied to the same card.
- Check the format for the DOB. It must be mm/dd/yyyy (leading zeros may be dropped)
- Students with invalid or missing address
 - Students without an address will not be accepted.
 - A district address may be used to distribute the PEBT cards to students.
 - This should be in exceptional cases only

Change in Student Guardianship

- Funds will continue to be applied to the existing card. The card is expected to go with the student.
- If the card does not follow the student, the district must request a new card to be sent to the new guardian address
- Contact support at 866-244-0071, option 1
 - Provide the date of guardianship change
 - New guardian name and address
- This will lock the previous card and existing funds will be applied to the new card. Additional funds will be applied to the new card.

Where to submit

- Messaging sent to EMIS Coordinators, Food Service Directors and Superintendents.
 - Must use the secure link to access the upload area of the portal.
 - <https://www.ohio-k12.help/pebt-portal/>
- Template is available under Data Management
- Template for 2021-2022 school year is the same as last year

Data Submission Report

- Available through the P-EBT Portal and emailed to the submitter

PEBT Load Submission Report											
											1/25/2021 4:14:00 PM
District: District Name (888999)											
Import ID	Date Loaded	Records Loaded This File	Records Not Loaded This File	Total Loaded To Date							
785336b1-e5f0-47fa-bb43-14941b3874d8	1/25/2021	0	52	20385							
Errors Found: If students listed below have FATAL severity, those records WILL NOT be loaded and must be corrected and resubmitted.											
File	District	Gender	Remote	Primary	Mailing	Phone	DOB	Child	Middle	Invalid	
File Name	0	0	0	0	2	50	0	0	0	0	
District IRN	Building IRN	Child Last Name	Child First Name	Child MI	DOB	Issue	Severity				
888999	880011	Information Cleared	Information Cleared		11/11/1111	Area Code > 3 or Phone Number > 7	Fatal				
888999	880011	Information Cleared	Information Cleared		11/11/1112	Part of Mailing Address is NULL	Fatal				
888999	880022	Information Cleared	Information Cleared		11/11/1113	Address Greater Than 19 Characters	Informational				
888999	880022	Information Cleared	Information Cleared		11/11/1114	Age between 19 & 22	Informational				

Deadlines

- Oct 14
- Nov 11
- Dec 9
- Jan 13
- Feb 10
- Mar 10
- April 14
- May 12
- June 9
- July 14

Each month, you may submit students for any prior month. For example: October will only permit students who with eligible days in Aug/Sept. November will permit Aug/Sept and Oct.

Corrections to Previous Submissions

- After P-EBT funds have been issued for a given period (i.e. Aug/Sept), the district can view Issued Benefits
- If there are omissions or corrections, the student may be added to the next month's submission and the correct **total** days for that period should be submitted
 - Example: Johnny was submitted for 5 days for Aug/Sept and should have received 15 days. Submit Johnny the next month with 15 days in the Aug/Sept column. We will subtract the already funded days and submit Johnny for 10 days.

Questions

- Contact Support
 - P-EBT portal support form
 - Pebt-support@ohio-k12.help