

Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)

Betsy West Suver

Ohio Job and Family Services

January 28, 2021

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** (*includes virtual/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.

Examples of Eligible School Status

- Fully 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 (e.g. Virtual academies), 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.

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 NLSP 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 Flier
 - P-EBT Questions and Answers for Families
 - 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

January 2021

Question and Answer Resource

- <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Reset-and-Restart/Whole-Child-Nutrition/School-Year-2020-2021-Pandemic-Electronic-Benefits>
- Education.ohio.gov
 - Search Pandemic electronic

Common Questions

- P-EBT may be distributed even if the school offered “to-go” meals (question 1)
- Weekends, holiday breaks and calamity days with no instruction do not count (question 2)
- P-EBT may not be counted for a in-person day where a meal is offered in school to eat at school (question 3)
- P-EBT for preschool may only be submitted if the children would have received school lunch and/or breakfast (question 3)

Common Questions

- Quarantine days may be counted (question 3)
- 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 expected months will be accepted
 - Example: Remote days for January on the Feb 2 collection will not be accepted and **will not** be stored for the March collection
- 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

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 on the Feb 2 data collection with 15 days in the Aug/Sept column.

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

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	Records Not Loaded	Total Loaded To Date							
		This File	This File								
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

- Feb 2 – Aug/Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec
- March 11 – Jan, Feb
 - April 8 (corrections)
- May 13 – Mar, Apr
 - June 10 (corrections)
- July 8 – May, June
 - Aug 12 (corrections)

Questions

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