

November 2, 2021 - Update P-EBT Benefits Card

Recently there have been inquiries about the Pandemic EBT benefits for families. The following information is available to assist you.

Who qualifies for P-EBT?

P-EBT cards are issued to income eligible families who qualified via SNAP benefits or by qualifying for free meals on the 2020-21 application for school meals or Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Schools.

Why are some schools getting cards for all families?

For every family to qualify regardless of income, the school must qualify for the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). This provision is based on a qualifying percentage of all families to be directly certified for SNAP, or other income based benefits that designates the school as free meals for all students.

My school gets free meals, why doesn't everyone get P-EBT?

Free meals for non CEP schools are provided by a different program that is related to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is a grant/waiver that is not income based and does not come with the same P-EBT designation.

How can I apply to get the P-EBT?

There is no application currently available. All benefits were based on the applications, SNAP benefits, etc. submitted in the previous 2020-21 school year.

I'm told my child was denied P-EBT benefits by New York Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (NYOTDA), why?

The school does not issue or deny benefits. This is a federal program administered by the NYOTDA office.

NYOTDA told me to contact the school. What can the school do to help?

We have contacted NYOTDA and we have been informed that there isn't any action that we are able to execute. If you have been encouraged to contact the school, please obtain written instructions on next steps, so we can assist.

I need more information, who can I contact?

The NYOTDA has set up this contact form to assist you. Please click this link.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6rhs9AB5EE2M64Dowcge5xOHCi6o8CplhK5UIB98liVUQINLVkpSRFJQUlkwR1ICT1E4T09SVzc3Ry4u>

You may also contact them in the following manner:

Website: <https://otda.ny.gov/SNAP-COVID-19/Frequently-Asked-Questions-Pandemic-EBT.asp>

Please do not contact the school for assistance unless you have been directed to in writing from the OTDA. There is no action the school can take. If you have been directed to in writing please provide the written directions to the school so we may assist.