

# PANDEMIC-EBT AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS RECEIVING FREE OR REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

#### \$285 PER CHILD MAKES UP FOR COST OF BREAKFAST, LUNCH THEY WOULD HAVE RECEIVED AT SCHOOL

Amid the ongoing public health crisis, Louisiana has been approved for the new Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program. This program will provide extra help buying groceries for the families of the more than 600,000 children who normally receive free and reduced-price meals at school.

Eligible families who complete an online application will be issued a P-EBT debit card by the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to access benefits. The P-EBT card will function like a standard EBT card, and the same guidelines will apply.

Families will receive \$285 in total P-EBT benefits per child. Unused benefits will roll over month to month and must be used within 365 days.

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

As school facilities remain closed, households that meet the following criteria may now be eligible to receive P-EBT benefits to help them buy food for their children:

- ✓ Families with one or more children in their household
- Children are younger than age 18
- Children are approved for free and reduced price meals at school

## **P-EBT APPLICATION**

Families must complete the online application to receive benefits. Without the requested information, DCFS cannot issue the P-EBT card and provide benefits.

Applicants must provide the full names of the student and parent, date of birth, Social Security number, home address, school and school district.



#### **SNAP Nondiscrimination Statement**

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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the agency (state or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the **USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form** (AD-3027) found online at: **How to File a Complaint**, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- **1.** *Mail:* U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- 2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- 3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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