

Internal Notes Re: P-EBT, WV State Plan

- CEP counties = All students automatically qualify
- Partial CEP counties = All students in CEP-designated schools qualify
- Non-CEP schools and counties = Students who are eligible for free and reduced price meals are eligible for the benefit.
- There is not a sign up or application for P-EBT. It's based on data shared between WVDE and DHHR. We chose an opt-out process versus an opt-in application process for households.
- For households that wish to opt out – there is a number and a link for them to complete on the WVDE web site by May 8th. Beyond that time, if someone gets a card and they don't want it – the instructions with the card will tell them to not activate the card and destroy it.
- Cards cannot be donated. The cards will come with rights/responsibilities from DHHR on how they can be used, where they can be used, eligible items, ineligible items and other instructions.
- For households that previously qualified for free/rp prior to the COVID-19 closures, they will receive the value of days closed for March, April, and May.
- Individual county calendars were not factored in – so benefits are not being issued if your school calendar carries into June.
- For newly eligible households (meaning they didn't previously qualify – and they think they now do because of some life changing circumstance such as loss of income) – their benefit value is tied to the month in which they apply. So if they apply in May and are eligible for free/rp benefits – their P-EBT card will only be filled with benefits for the month of May. (We fought with USDA on this).
- Eligible households with multiple children will receive 1 card but loaded at the appropriate value for each of the children combined.
- For Private Schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program – their free/rp students are eligible for the benefit. In WV those private schools are:
 - Central Catholic High School
 - Fairmont Catholic Grade School
 - Harrison County Catholic (St. Mary + Notre Dame)
 - New Life Christian Academy
 - Parkersburg Catholic Elementary
 - Parkersburg Catholic High School
 - St. Francis of Assisi
 - St. Francis DeSales School
 - St. Joseph School
 - St. Paul School
 - St. Peter & Paul
 - Wood County Christian

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- Head start children that fall under a school system and have a WVEIS number should be eligible; the free standing/unaffiliated head start and pre-kindergartens are not eligible for this benefit.
- Homeschool children are not eligible. The law was written that ties this benefit to students served under the National School Lunch Program. We are triaging calls from homeschool families and directing them to call United Way 211 Resource and Referral or to contact their local DHHR office to see if there are other benefits they apply for.
- Cards should all be issued by the end of June. DHHR will be distributing cards, letters, and instructions.
- Thank you for the behind the scenes efforts you have made to help ensure address accuracy and validation.
- The cards will not be loaded for summer months – but the benefits do not expire until November 2020. After that time, any unused benefits will be expunged.
- Households with SNAP and other public benefit cards (described on WVDE web site) will have the P-EBT benefits loaded onto those cards – they shouldn't receive brand new cards.
- This is federally funded through the Families First Coronavirus Act. It is a one-time benefit with a lump sum payment