

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT)

A Tested and Effective Strategy for Ending Summer Hunger

In December 2022, a bipartisan Congress created a new, permanent program for States and certain Indian Tribal Organizations to provide food dollars to low-income families with school-age kids over the summer months. This program, officially called Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer, or [Summer EBT](#), will help close the summer hunger gap when kids are on summer break and not getting nutritious school meals.

Starting in summer 2024, States and certain Indian Tribal Organizations can provide \$40 per summer month per child to families with eligible school-age children for them to buy groceries, similar to how USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are used. Summer EBT will work hand-in-hand with other USDA nutrition programs to connect every eligible child with nutritious food in the summer.


Summer EBT is a proven game-changer in the fight against child hunger.

Summer EBT is evidence-based policy at its best! Research shows that providing families with summer grocery benefits reduces child hunger and supports healthier diets.


USDA tested Summer EBT as a demonstration project in select States and certain Indian Tribal Organizations for several years. [Rigorous evaluations](#) showed that Summer EBT:

Decreased the number of kids with very low food security **by one-third!**


↑ Whole grain & dairy consumption




↑ Fruit & vegetable consumption



↓ Sugar-sweetened beverage consumption



↓ Child food insecurity



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When kids are food insecure, they may skip meals or eat less because there isn't enough food to go around.

During the Coronavirus COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, States, certain Indian Tribal Organizations, and territories operated a temporary program similar to Summer EBT, which demonstrated the potential of expanding the program nationwide. [Research found](#) that this program:

33%

Decreased children's food hardship by 33% after benefits were issued.



2.7–3.9 million

Lifted at least 2.7 to 3.9 million children out of hunger.



Let's join forces to make the Summer EBT Program a success!

Together we can ensure that every child has the nourishment they need during the summer months.

[Learn more >](#)