

Summer EBT - Sun Bucks Information

May 2024

Illinois has announced its intent to launch a Summer EBT program beginning this summer.

What is Summer EBT?

Summer EBT, or SUN Bucks, is a new permanent nutrition program authorized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to help families buy food for their school-aged children during the summer. SUN Bucks 2024 will provide a \$120 annual benefit to eligible children, via an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) issuance by the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS) later this summer. More basic information on the new federal program is available on the USDA website at www.fns.usda.gov/sebt/household. Illinois is one of 36 states that have announced their intent to launch Summer EBT in summer 2024.

Is my child eligible?

Your child is eligible for SUN Bucks if:

- Your child is identified as direct certified due to participation in SNAP, TANF, income-eligible Medicaid (185% of the federal poverty guideline), or be identified as foster, homeless, or migrant.
- Your child attends a school that offers the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or School Breakfast Program (SBP), and your household income meets the requirements for free or reduced-price school meals. (A household can complete a Household Eligibility Application (HEA) at schools that participate in NSLP/SBP at any point during the school year. Contact your school for an HEA.)

If you currently have a Free/Reduced student enrolled in our schools, your student is automatically eligible. However, if you are not currently eligible and believe you should be, please complete an Online Food Service Application in Skyward Family Access or return a paper copy of the application to the school office ASAP.

- [Free/Reduced Lunch Application - English](#)
- [Free/Reduced Lunch Application - Spanish](#)

Where can I find more information?

- Please see the attached [Fact Sheet](#).
- Contact the Illinois Department of Human Services
 - Customer Help Line - (833) 621-0737
 - <https://www.dhs.state.il.us/>