

## NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES & NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

## SY 21-22 SUDENT P-EBT OVERVIEW

North Carolina's Student P-EBT plan has been approved by USDA to continue P-EBT through the 2021-22 school year under new guidance. P-EBT this year will provide benefits from September 2021 through May 2022. Due to the P-EBT eligibility requirements and with most students attending school in person, many households may no longer receive P-EBT. The following outlines key information regarding SY 21-22 Student P-EBT.

Please note: for internal use only until information on SY 21-22 is published.

## <u>Eligibility</u>

A student must meet all the following conditions to be eligible for P-EBT:

- 1. Attend a school that participates in the National School Lunch Program **and** be approved for free or reduced-price meals
- 2. Experience one or more days in COVID-19 quarantine or temporary virtual instruction and these **days are coded** as such **in the student attendance record** 
  - **Quarantine** (attendance code: 1D): school tells the student to stay home because of COVID-19 related symptoms, illness, or exposure **or** parent/guardian informs the school about a student's COVID-19 related symptoms, illness, or exposure and the school approves the absence.
  - **Temporary virtual instruction** (attendance code: 1R for present, off-site): student is enrolled in a physical school but is in virtual or remote learning for a temporary period because of COVID-19. Students can be in temporary virtual instruction if they are enrolled in a physical school.
  - Please refer to the <u>SY 21-22 School Attendance and Student Accounting Manual</u> and the "Lawful Student Absence Pursuant to Required Control Measures" memo for more information.

*IMPORTANT*: Students enrolled in fully virtual schools and virtual academies are NOT eligible for *P*-*EBT* because these schools aren't eligible to participate in the NSLP.

## <u>Timeline</u>

- December 10<sup>th</sup>: Schools submit August, September, October, and November data to DPI
  - The data requirements have changed for SY 21-22
  - August data will be used to qualify schools by confirming some level of reduced attendance or hours because of COVID-19. There will be no benefits issued for August.
- December/January: Toolkit materials will be provided
- January 10<sup>th</sup>: Planned date to begin the 1<sup>st</sup> issuance of P-EBT benefits for SY 21-22 (September, October, and November benefits)
- January 10<sup>th</sup>: Schools submit December data to DPI
- January 25<sup>th</sup>: December benefits issuance
- The regular monthly cadence commences:
  - $\circ$  Monthly school data due to DPI by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month for the previous month
  - Benefits issued between the  $25^{\text{th}} 30^{\text{th}}$  of each month for the previous month