



KEY SUN BUCKS INFORMATION FOR SIS COORDINATORS

BACKGROUND: North Carolina is running the SUN Bucks program (also known as Summer EBT) for the first time in 2024. SUN Bucks will provide grocery-buying benefits to qualifying families with school-aged children during the summer months when schools are on summer break. Student enrollment data collected and recorded at the local level for schools participating in the National School Lunch Program will help determine whether a child is eligible, and where their SUN Bucks benefits card will be sent. While SUN Bucks sounds a lot like Pandemic EBT (P-EBT), there are some **key differences**:

Pandemic EBT (P-EBT)
<p>School Data Requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly data pulls through school year and during summer (10+ data pulls) • Onerous, detailed asks of the schools (e.g., special attendance coding, detailed attendance records, attendance updates, attendance thresholds) <p>USDA Guidance: Frequent changes to USDA Guidance and program expansions; open only to FRP-approved NSLP students.</p>

SUN Bucks 2024
<p>Simplified School Data Requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 data pulls as part of normal operations and one final data pull at the end-of-school year/start of summer • Data is part of “normal” school data collection and reporting • Attendance-level data is not needed. <p>USDA Guidance: Established rules for the program with some operational flexibilities for 2024; CEP students will have to apply to be certified; non-NSLP students can be eligible.</p>

WHAT NC DHHS / NC DPI NEEDS FROM SIS COORDINATORS:

1. DPI will be pulling aggregate school enrollment data on April 1, which will encompass all data up through March 31. The mailing addresses in this data will be used to mail benefit cards to students who are automatically eligible for SUN Bucks. DPI and DHHS are messaging to families to make sure their mailing addresses are updated with their school before the end of March. If the student record has no mailing address, the physical address will be used.



NC's ASK: Please ensure that all mailing address change requests are logged into PowerSchool / your data system before March 31.

2. DPI will be pulling a final set of aggregate data at the end of the school year (first week in June). Because some schools end in May, and some end in June, North Carolina has defined “end of the school year” to be any day in May for the purposes of this program.



NC's ASK:

- If your school ends in May, please pull your data on your last day of school, or on / before June 3 (whichever is more convenient).
- If your school ends in June or later, please pull your data on Monday, June 3.

If you or your team have any questions about the SUN Bucks program, please direct questions to DCFW.SUNBUCKS@dhhs.nc.gov. To learn more, you can also **register below** for one of the school personnel webinars hosted by NC DHHS, NC DPI and Carolina Hunger Initiative on March 5, 6 or 8:

- **Tuesday March 5, 2 - 3pm ET:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3384313720311349337>
- **Wednesday March 6, 2 - 3pm ET:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8326736134908852059>
- **Friday March 8, 2 - 3pm ET:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6094333905360835414>