

SUN Bucks Program Eligibility:

SUN Bucks provides grocery-buying benefits to qualifying school-aged children. Benefits can be used to buy nutritious food during the summer at places like grocery stores, farmers markets, and some online retailers.



- ▶ **Who is eligible for SUN Bucks?** Many children will be automatically enrolled for SUN Bucks based on their participation in other qualifying benefit programs. Other students will need to apply. Use the chart below or visit the SUN Bucks website at ncdhhs.gov/sunbucks and use the interactive eligibility quiz to see if your child qualifies and whether you need to apply. Here you will also find more information on eligibility, application, and answers to frequently asked questions.
- ▶ **Does My Student Qualify for SUN Bucks?** Use the **School Search Tool** on the SUN Bucks website to see if your school is NSLP or CEP.

First, which type of school does the student attend?	Then, which scenario applies to the student?	Student is automatically qualified and does not need to apply.	Can the student apply?
1 Student attends a NSLP* school	SCENARIO A: Student participates in at least one of the following programs: 1. NSLP free or reduced-price (FRP) school meals and through applications 2. Food and Nutrition Services (FNS, SNAP, food stamps) 3. Work First (TANF, cash assistance) 4. Medicaid with household income within 185% of Federal Poverty Level (FPL) 5. McKinney-Vento for homeless youth 6. Foster care	✓	✗
	SCENARIO B: Student does not participate in any of the programs listed in Scenario A. Household must meet the income guidelines for SUN Bucks.	✗	✓
2 Student does not attend a NSLP* school	SCENARIO C: Student is between the ages of 7 and 16 and participates in any of the programs listed in Scenario A or participates in the CTFDP (Cherokee Tribal Food Distribution Program).	✓	✗
	SCENARIO D: Student does not participate in any of the programs listed in FNS, Work First, or foster care.	✗	✗
3 Student attends a CEP** school	SCENARIO E: Student participates in any of the programs listed in scenario A.	✓	✗
	SCENARIO F: Student does not participate in any of the programs listed in Scenario A. Household must meet the income guidelines for SUN Bucks.	✗	✓

*National School Lunch Program (NSLP) is a program in most public schools and some charter and private schools. Students who meet certain criteria for both free and reduced-price meals are eligible to receive free meals through their school due to legislation from the NC General Assembly covering the cost for reduced-price meals.

**Community Eligibility Provision School (CEP) is a type of NSLP school where all students get free meals.

- ▶ **How much will families receive?** Benefits amounts vary from year to year. Benefits in previous years were \$120 and can be found on the SUN Bucks website.
- ▶ **When and how will benefits be issued?** Eligible families will get a SUN Bucks card with benefits in the mail. SUN Bucks cards will be distributed starting in the summer.
- ▶ **Does SUN Bucks replace other food assistance benefits?** No, SUN Bucks does not take the place of other food benefits. It's extra help on top of any other benefits you or your children might be getting.
- ▶ **How do I apply for SUN Bucks?** Go to ncdhhs.gov/sunbucksapplication to complete one application for all the children in your household. Eligibility will be decided for each child separately.



- ▶ **Stay updated on SUN Bucks!** Search "NCDHHS" on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [X](#) to follow the account and stay in the loop for important program updates and announcements.