

P-EBT Food Benefits Cards Being Issued to Thousands of Delaware Families

Many parents of school-aged children are receiving benefits cards in the mail.

Earlier this month, the Delaware Division of Social Services was approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to operate Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) -- a new program authorized by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act that provides assistance to families with children who are eligible for free or reduced-price school meals.

The P-EBT program provides a supplemental food-purchasing benefit to current Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) households and a new EBT benefit to other eligible households to offset the cost of meals that would have otherwise been available at school. Households will receive written notification regarding P-EBT benefits.

Delaware has approximately 100,000 children eligible for free or reduced-priced school meals who are now eligible to receive P-EBT benefits. The P-EBT benefits will be issued as a supplement to SNAP households on their existing EBT cards and to non-SNAP households on a new EBT card along with details on how to use the card.

The P-EBT benefit amount is equal to the federal reimbursement rate for breakfast and lunch at the rate of \$5.70 per child, per canceled school day. There were 65 missed school days in Delaware.

Eligible households will receive P-EBT benefits as follows:

<u>P-EBT Issuance Month</u>	<u>SNAP Households</u>	<u>Non-SNAP Households</u>
March & April 2020	Amount: \$193.80 per child Issuance Date: week of May 11	Amount: \$193.80 per child Issuance Date: mid-May
May 2020	Amount: \$119.70 per child	Amount: \$119.70 per child
June 2020	Amount: \$57.00 per child	Amount: \$57.00 per child