

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 28, 2021

Students approved for free or reduced priced meals during 2020-2021 school year can apply for one-time \$375 Summer P-EBT benefit

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – Today, Missouri families who had a student approved for free or reduced priced meals during the previous 2020-2021 school year can apply for a one-time Summer Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (Summer P-EBT) benefit of \$375 for that child. Congress extended P-EBT to cover the summer following the school year during the COVID-19 public health emergency. **The completed and signed Summer P-EBT application (<https://dss.mo.gov/covid-19/pdf/summer-p-ebt-application.pdf>) (aplicación en Español) (<https://dss.mo.gov/covid-19/pdf/summer-p-ebt-application-es.pdf>) must be submitted by October 8, 2021.** Completed applications can be sent by email to **FSD.MOPEBT@dss.mo.gov** (**<mailto:FSD.MOPEBT@dss.mo.gov>**) or by mail to:

Family Support Division
615 E. 13th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106

DSS will automatically review all P-EBT applications (not to be confused with Summer P-EBT applications) families submitted by August 20, including applications that were denied, for Summer P-EBT benefit eligibility. If the student is eligible for Summer P-EBT, the one-time benefit is loaded on an existing or new EBT card in the student's name.

"Families should be aware it is easier to be eligible for Summer P-EBT than for P-EBT because remote learning or school closure due to COVID-19 is not required for the Summer P-EBT benefit," said **Jennifer Tidball, Acting Director, Department of Social Services**. "That means more Missouri families will be eligible for Summer P-EBT who were ineligible for P-EBT. We are reviewing all of the P-EBT applications we received to ensure Summer P-EBT benefits are distributed to all the families who are now eligible for Summer P-EBT."

The **Missouri Services Navigator** (<https://mo.servicesnavigator.org/s4s/WhereILive/Council?pageId=1&lockla=true>) has information on over 2,800 programs and services available in the state. Missourians in need of information on SNAP, Medicaid, Child Care Subsidy, LIHEAP, or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families benefit programs can visit **dss.mo.gov** (<https://dss.mo.gov/>). Missourians who have questions not specific to an individual's case can use the **DSS Virtual Assistant** (<https://info.mo.gov/dss/chatbot/>) to get immediate answers to basic questions 24 hours a day. Phone assistance is also available Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. call 855-FSD-INFO or 855-373-4636. Missourians can apply for SNAP benefits 24/7 online by visiting **MyDSS.mo.gov** (<https://mydss.mo.gov/>), or sending completed applications and verification documents by email to **FSD.Documents@dss.mo.gov** (**<mailto:FSD.Documents@dss.mo.gov>**), or by fax to 573-526-9400.

SkillUp (<https://mydss.mo.gov/food-assistance/missouri-employment-training-program>) and **Missouri Work Assistance (MWA)** (<https://mydss.mo.gov/missouri-work-assistance>) are free programs available to all SNAP and TA recipients that help low-income Missourians with career planning, overcoming challenges to work, as well as getting and keeping a job.

The mission of the Department of Social Services is to empower Missourians to live safe, healthy, and productive lives. Visit dss.mo.gov (<https://dss.mo.gov/>) to learn more about the Department of Social Services and follow us on **Facebook** (<https://www.facebook.com/MOSocialServices/>) and **Twitter** (https://twitter.com/DSS_Missouri).

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