

Important Information Regarding Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)

Dear Parents and Guardians,

You may have heard about a new program authorized by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) called Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer or P-EBT for short. This program intends to provide financial assistance to families of children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals who have lost access to food due to the school closures caused by COVID-19. The financial assistance will be distributed to eligible families on new or existing Colorado EBT cards. The average P-EBT benefit is \$5.70/child per day or up to \$279 per eligible child, retroactive to when school initially closed.

If your family is already participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and possesses an EBT card, the P-EBT benefits will automatically be loaded onto your card within the month of June 2020. **If your family is not currently enrolled in SNAP benefits, you must complete an application to receive P-EBT.**

Receiving these benefits will **not** affect your immigration or public charge status. All families who are eligible for P-EBT may receive it, regardless of immigration status. P-EBT is a pandemic emergency benefit based on free or reduced-price school meal eligibility, and similar to other benefits that the Department Homeland Security has stated that it is excluded from consideration in public charge. Household information that is used to determine eligibility is protected under both federal and state data privacy practices.

To successfully complete the P-EBT application, you will need your child(ren)'s State Assigned Student ID (SASID) number

Upon approval, an EBT card with the qualifying amount will be mailed to you. To access the P-EBT application visit: <https://www.colorado.gov/cdhs/p-ebt>.

For more information about P-EBT, please visit Colorado Department of Human Services' Frequently Asked Questions [webpage](#). If you have further questions, please contact pebt2020@state.co.us and a representative will respond.

You can find your Student ID number in the Parents Portal under the 'Today' tab, it is a 10 digit number and each child has a different one, you will need each of them. If you need assistance in finding them you can contact the Food Service Dept. at 970-522-0792 Ext 1254 or call or email Joleen Locke 970-466-2525 lockej@re1valleyschools.org Kay Wernsmank 970-580-3426 wernsmank@re1valleyschools.org. We aren't in the office full time in the summer, but we do get our messages and check our emails. If you send an email, please include ALL of your child(ren)'s first and last names so that we can give you the correct information. Again, we don't know the exact date that the site will open, you will need to check back for details.

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