

2021–2022 School Year



Student Temporary Food Benefits

Students need access to healthy meals, even when they have to stay home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. That's why students who usually get free or reduced price meals may be able to get temporary food benefits through the Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer program (P-EBT).

Here's how it works.

- School districts report to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services the days students were absent for COVID-19-related reasons or learned from home during the 2021-2022 school year.
- If we have all the information we need to process your benefits, you'll get a letter in the mail that says how much you'll receive per child. Eligible students will get **\$7.10** for each COVID-19-related absence and learn-from-home day as reported.
- The amount is added to a QUEST or P-EBT card roughly every five weeks, according to the benefits release schedule.

| Eligible Month | Benefits Released |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| August, September, and October 2021 | Early March 2022 |
| November and December 2021 | Early April 2022 |
| January and February 2022 | Mid–May 2022 |
| March and April 2022 | Mid–June 2022 |
| May and June 2022 | Late July 2022 |

Where are my family's benefits?

If you didn't get benefits this time but think you should have, **follow these steps.**

1

Check to see if your school district reported.

Go to www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/pebt-schools-submitting-eligibility-information.pdf. First, find your school district. Next, look for your child's school.

2

My child's school is not listed — don't worry.

If your child's school is not on the list, **you don't need to do anything at this time.** Many districts are still working on their reporting. This doesn't mean you'll lose the benefits — it just means they are not ready yet. Please check the list again after the next benefits release date.

3

My child's school is listed — contact us.

If your school is on the list, there are a number of reasons why you might not have gotten benefits. To find out what you should do next, call the P-EBT Support Team at **833-431-2224** or email PEBTSupport@wisconsin.gov. **We're here to help.**

Who is eligible for P-EBT?

- Only children who are enrolled in the free or reduced price meals program and attend schools in the USDA's National School Lunch Program or School Breakfast Program are eligible for P-EBT.
- Benefits can only be provided for the exact number of days each month that a student was either absent due to a COVID-19-related reason or learning from home. DHS relies on data provided by participating school districts to issue these benefits.

Learn more about these benefits.

Benefits will be put on a QUEST or P-EBT card if you have one. Families receiving benefits for the first time will be sent new P-EBT cards in the mail. You can use these cards like debit cards to buy food, such as:



- Fruits and vegetables
- Meat, poultry, and fish
- Dairy products
- Breads and cereals
- Other foods such as snacks
- Seeds and plants to grow food for your family to eat

You can check the balance on your card at any time at [ebtedge.com](https://www.ebtedge.com) or using the ebtEDGE mobile app. FoodShare members may also check their balance on the myACCESS app.

Do you need more information?

Go to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services website at www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/forwardhealth-pebt.htm.

Sign up for our email list to get announcements of new information as soon as they're available at public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WIDHS/subscriber/new?topic_id=WIDHS_626.

Email us at PEBTsupport@wisconsin.gov or call the support line at **833-431-2224** if you have questions. Be ready to provide:

- Your name, date of birth, and contact information, including your mailing address.
- The name, grade, gender, and date of birth of your child who usually gets free or reduced price meals. This needs to exactly match the information your school has on file.
- The name of your child's school and school district.
- The number of days in each month that your child was absent for a COVID-related reason or was learning from home.

