



**Office of Temporary
and Disability Assistance**

Overview of Summer EBT

New York State - 2025

Summer EBT Staff

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What is Summer EBT

- Food benefits for eligible children to supplement the loss of free school meals during the summer months
- \$120 benefit per eligible child - paid in a single issuance
- More than 2 million children were issued a benefit in 2024, we expect a similar caseload for 2025
 - Most children will be automatically enrolled through streamlined certification
- June 18th, Summer 2025 benefits will begin to be issued

2025 Eligibility

Period of Eligibility is July 1, 2024, to September 4, 2025

Streamline Certified (Automatically Enrolled & Issued)

Participates in:

- SNAP/Temporary Assistance/Medicaid (age 6-16)

OR

- Directly Certified for free/reduced-price meals by their school (any age)

Eligible Through an Application

- Not Streamline Certified
- Attends a National School Lunch Program (NSLP) participating school

AND

- Household income at or below 185% FPL (income limit for free or reduced-price school meals)

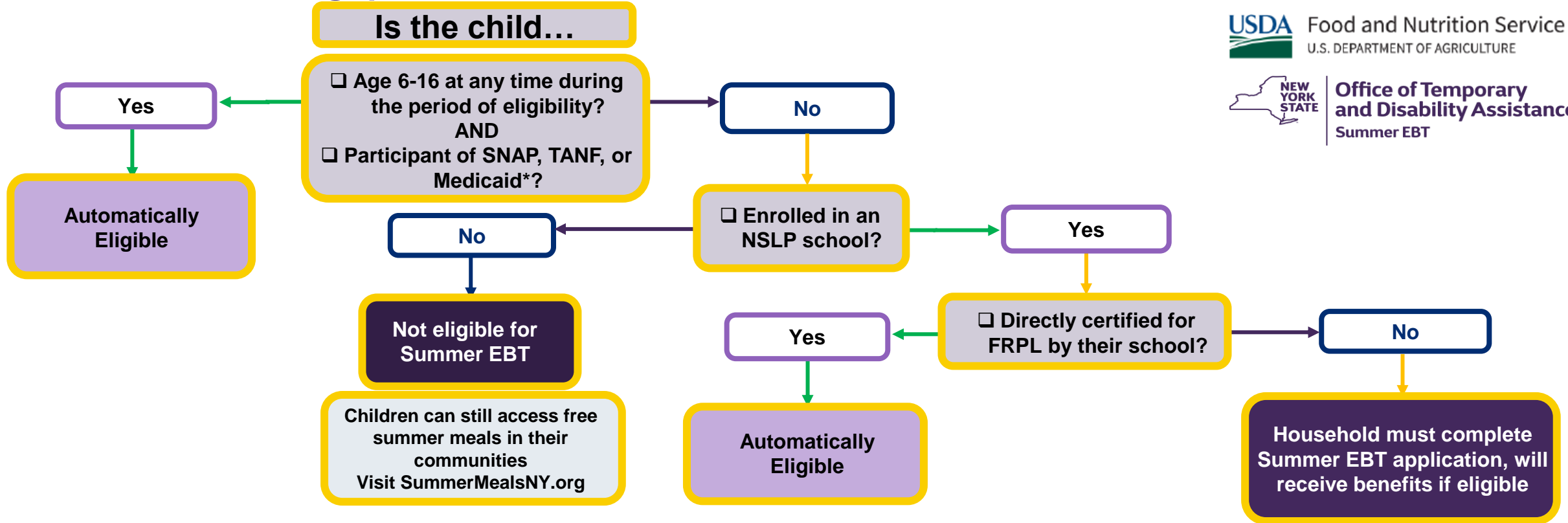
Attending a CEP school alone **does not** confer eligibility. All children require an individual eligibility determination, which must be either categorically eligible/directly certified by the school, or determined eligible through an application.

Income Guidelines for Applications

Income Guidelines for Summer EBT (185% FPL)					
Household Size	Gross Annual Income	Gross Monthly Income	Twice Per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	\$27,861	\$2,322	\$1,161	\$1,072	\$536
2	\$37,814	\$3,152	\$1,576	\$1,455	\$728
3	\$47,767	\$3,981	\$1,991	\$1,838	\$919
4	\$57,720	\$4,810	\$2,405	\$2,220	\$1,110
5	\$67,673	\$5,640	\$2,820	\$2,603	\$1,302
6	\$77,626	\$6,469	\$3,235	\$2,986	\$1,493
7	\$87,579	\$7,299	\$3,650	\$3,369	\$1,685
8	\$97,532	\$8,128	\$4,064	\$3,752	\$1,876
Each additional person	+\$9,953	+\$830	+\$415	+\$383	+\$192

Is My Child Eligible for Summer EBT 2025?

Answer the following questions to find out.



- FRPL- Free and Reduced-Price Lunch - a child's FRPL eligibility is established based on their participation in SNAP, TANF, or Medicaid*, or if they are enrolled in Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or are homeless, migrant, runaway, foster, enrolled in Head Start, or an eligible pre-kindergarten program, or through an NSLP F/RP Meal application. The New York State Education Department collects this student level data through the Student Information Repository System (SIRS) or the Information and Reporting Services Data Exchange (IDEx), then transferred to the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance.
- NSLP- National School Lunch Program
- SNAP- Supplemental Nutrition Program
- TANF- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- *Medicaid- Limited to certain Medicaid-eligible children with household income at or below 185% of poverty before application of blocks, disregards, or exceptions.

Streamline Certification/Automatically Enrolled

- Summer EBT-Eligible children identified from:
 - NYSED student enrollment, contact, and parent/guardian data from:
 - Public Schools
 - Non-public Schools
 - NYS DOH Medicaid data (Age 6-16 during period of eligibility)
 - SNAP/TA data (Age 6-16 during period of eligibility)
- Students meeting eligibility criteria are automatically enrolled in Summer EBT and will be issued benefits
- Eligibility letters issued beginning June 2nd and continuing throughout Summer

Summer EBT Application

- Child eligible if:
 - Not already streamline certified
 - Child attends NSLP school, and
 - Household income at or below 185% FPL
- Online/Mobile friendly portal
 - Available year-round
 - English/Spanish
 - Paper applications available in 11 additional languages
 - Requires NY.gov ID login
- Complete by **September 4** to be considered for 2025 benefits

Application Components

- One application per Household
- Application Components:
 - Child name, DOB, School name
 - Child's NYS Student Identification System (NYSSIS) ID number and/or local student ID number (optional)
 - Names of all others living in household
 - Amount and frequency of all income sources
 - Current address, phone number, and email address
 - Sign attestation
- No documentation required at time of application
- Verification will be required of a random sample of 3% of approved applicants

Summer EBT Timeline

Eligibility Letters – Benefit Issuance – EBT card mailing – Text messages

- June:
 - **Eligibility letters** to auto-enrolled through Public School, SNAP, or Medicaid (1.6M kids)
 - **Benefit issuance** to auto-enrolled Public School, SNAP, Medicaid (this will be issued over
 - **EBT cards** mailed to new cases or existing cases that didn't use benefit last year
 - **Text messages** alerting benefit issuance (starting 6/23)
- July:
 - First-round **approved applications**
 - Additional auto-enrolled
- August:
 - Auto-enrolled **Non-Public Schools**
 - second-round **approved applications**
 - Additional auto-enrolled
- September-October:
 - Remaining **approved applications** up to 9/4/25 deadline
 - Approved **Appeals**
 - Final clean-up **auto-enrolled** (MA, SNAP, Public School)

Household Communication

Eligibility letters

- Letters contain program information and specific payment method for the child

Emails/Text Messages

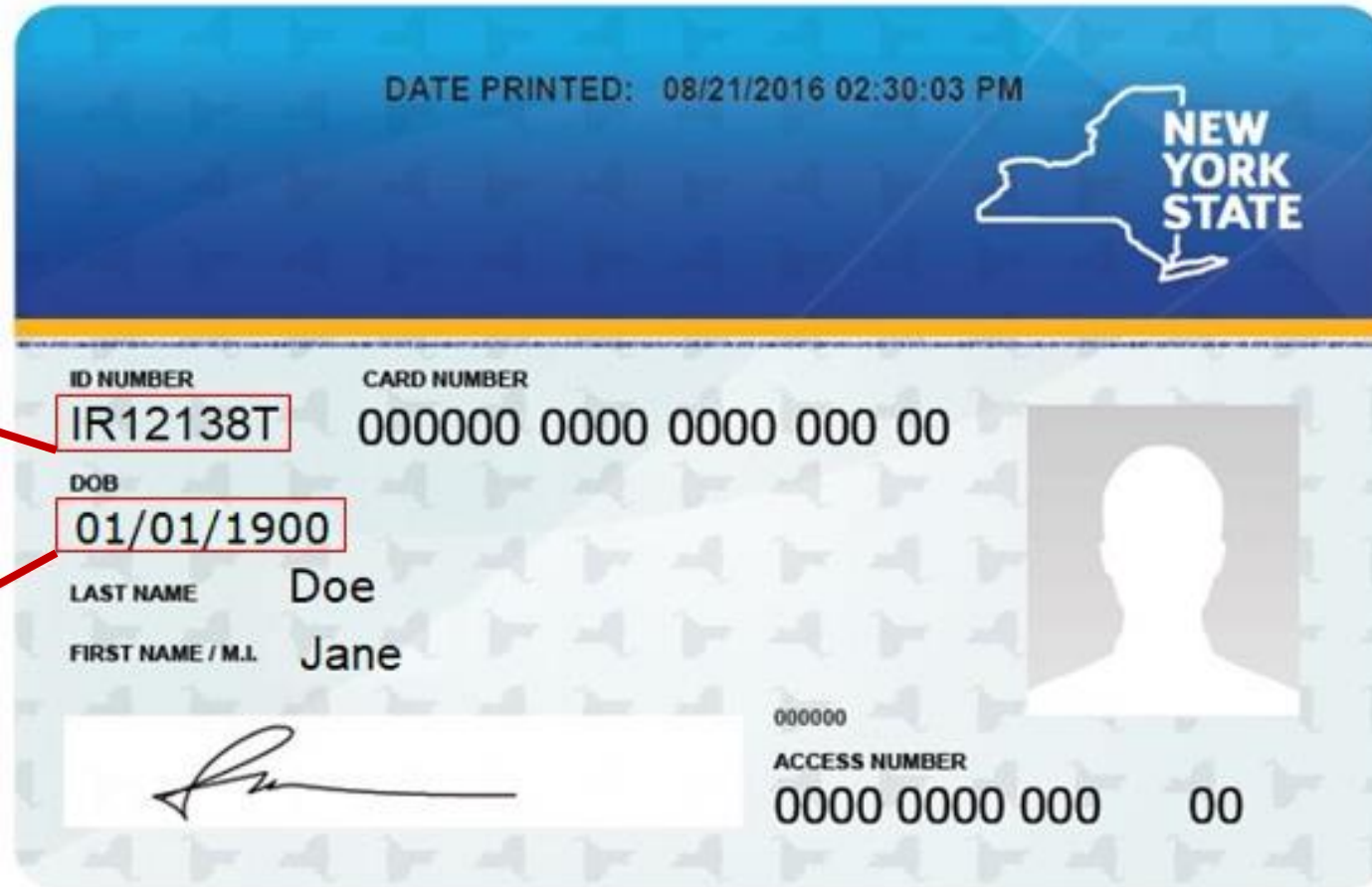
- Reinforcement of eligibility notice
- Benefits issuance
- Benefits expiration (6 weeks notice)
- Text messages from OTDA Short Code: 696832
- Email notifications from: nyotda@public.govdelivery.com

Benefits/Payment Method

- Every child will have their own Summer EBT food benefit card

All Summer EBT cards will have an ID number with "I" in the first or second position

All Summer EBT cards will have a 01/01/1900 DOB



Benefits/Payment Method

- Benefits will be issued on:
 - An existing Summer EBT card; **OR**
 - A new Summer EBT card
- Benefits will **NOT** be issued to a household SNAP EBT account
- Card replacement/activation information included in letters and on website
- Keep Summer EBT food benefit card for future year benefits
- Use Summer EBT benefits just like SNAP benefits at SNAP-participating retailers including grocery stores and farmers markets
- **Summer EBT benefits cannot be replaced if stolen**

Benefit Protection

- Creation of an ebtEDGE account allows:
 - Monitoring of benefit issuance
 - Access to transaction history
 - Updating PIN
 - Freeze the card
- www.ebtEDGE.com
- ebtEDGE mobile app available on Google Play Store and Apple App Store

Benefit Expiration

- **122 days from date of issuance**
- All unused funds expire and are removed from the card
- **Use benefits as soon as possible**
- Challenge: short timeframe to update address, issue replacement cards, etc.
- 6 week prior text message

Customer Service

OTDA.ny.gov/SummerEBT

- Benefit issuance timeline
- Eligibility
- EBT card replacement/activation
- Detailed FAQ
- Application link/instructions
- Outreach materials

Summer EBT Helpline

- 1-833-452-0096
- Answer general questions
- Child-specific eligibility questions
- Update address/order replacement card
- Card activation troubleshooting
- Interpreters for any language available

EBT Customer Service Helpline (ebtEDGE)

- 1-888-328-6399
- Activate EBT cards
- Order replacement cards to the same address on file
- Change PIN

Outreach Materials

- General Flyer
- Sample Newsletter/e-news article
- Sample social media posts
- Reference materials
- This information can be found at:

otda.ny.gov/programs/summer-ebt/school-provider-information/

- Messaging goals:
 - Raise awareness about the program, eligibility, and 4 month benefit lifecycle
 - Increase communication about application process in CEP schools
 - Focus on vulnerable populations



Summer EBT Food Benefits

Learn how New York's Summer EBT program can help feed kids this summer!

The Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) program will help families buy food for their school-aged children during the summer. Families will get **\$120** in food benefits for each eligible child.

Eligible children will receive Summer EBT food benefits on an EBT card. Families can use their Summer EBT benefits to buy food like fruits, vegetables, meat, whole grains, and dairy at **authorized retail food stores, farmers' markets**, and anywhere else SNAP is accepted.

Most children will be automatically eligible for Summer EBT and do not need to do anything to enroll. However, some children may need to apply. Apply online by September 4, 2025, for 2025 benefits.

Automatically Enrolled:

- The child is age 6-16 and received SNAP, Temporary Assistance, or Medicaid at any time in the period of eligibility.
- OR**
- The child has been directly certified by their school for free/reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program during the 2024-25 school year.
- **Automatically enrolled children DO NOT need to apply.**

Must Apply:

- The child is not automatically enrolled.
- AND**
- The household meets the **income requirements** for free/reduced-price school meals.
- AND**
- The child attends a school that participates in the National School Lunch Program.
- The online application is available at SummerEBT.ny.gov

Unused Summer EBT benefits expire and are removed from the EBT card 122 days from the date they are issued. Families should use their benefits soon after they are received.

The period of eligibility is July 1, 2024, to September 4, 2025. To learn more about Summer EBT, including when and how food benefits will be issued and how to use them, visit otda.ny.gov/SummerEBT.



Pub-5295 (4/25)

For more information, visit:
otda.ny.gov/SummerEBT



Q&A

- **Can teens have their own EBT accounts?**

- Yes, the Summer EBT benefit is in the student's name. They can also create their own ebtEDGE account as long as they have their card information.

- **How is Summer EBT used at Farmers' Markets?**

- Summer EBT benefits can be used anywhere SNAP benefits are accepted. check <https://snaptomarket.com/> for more information

- **How do we report students who attended part of the school year?**

- As long as they attended an NSLP school and meet the financial guidelines or program participation criteria at any point during the period of eligibility 7/1/2024-9/4/2025, they are eligible for Summer EBT 2025.

- **What's the scope in which agencies can assist parents with SEBT?**

- Ensuring that parents keep their information, such as parent/guardian name and contact info, and mailing address up to date at their child's school and their local DSS/NYC HRA. Helping with completing applications if necessary, or signing up for ebtEDGE.

Q&A

- **What Role do schools have?**
 - Keep the student data, including parent/guardian information, contact, and mailing address up to date within the SIRS database, as well as providing a student's NYSSIS ID when asked for by a parent.
- **Are children in Pre-K eligible?**
 - If a child attends a preschool participating in the National School Lunch Program and is directly certified for free/reduced-price meals, they will receive Summer EBT benefits automatically. If the child has not been directly certified for free meals by their school, they may apply as long as they meet the eligibility criteria for the application.
 - Many Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 programs are located within a school building but may be operated by another facility. If you are unsure if your preschool is an NSLP participant, please check with the school program director.
- **Should families be encouraged to fill out an application?**
 - If they know that they are only eligible through an application, then yes, otherwise, they should wait for a letter or a text message until about 8/1. If they do not receive anything by then, they should call the Summer EBT Helpline to find out if they need to apply.
- **What training/education is provided for local DSS offices?**
 - We send out a quick facts reference guide and a general information memo to DSS offices so that they are aware of the program and its operational timeframe. Local DSS has no role in Summer EBT except for keeping client data up to date, including contact information and mailing address.



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