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New Mexico to deliver \$89 million in food assistance

Benefits allocated for 227,735 school students

SANTA FE – Families for 227,735 New Mexico students will receive benefits starting on September 18 through September 26 to cover the summer months of June and July 2022.

Approximately, \$89,044,385 in Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) will be issued to cover summer meals for K-12 students who were eligible for free or reduced priced meals through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) or attended a Community Eligible Provision school that received free meals as of June 30, 2022, for school year 2021-2022. The one-time amount will be \$391 to eligible students.

Parents and guardians will be able to check whether their child qualified for the latest P-EBT issuance at the VERIFY <u>P-EBT Information</u> section of the Human Services Department's <u>YESNM portal</u> on September 20, 2022.

"The goal of Summer P-EBT is to help provide good nutrition to New Mexico's children for the months they are not in school due to the summer break, "said **Angela Medrano**, **deputy secretary for the New Mexico Human Services Department.** "In partnership with the Public Education Department, we want to ensure access to food for New Mexican families."

If your child has a P-EBT card, please keep the card and do not destroy it. If a new address or guardian was reported to the school, a new P-EBT card will be mailed to the new address starting on September 18 through September 26. Mailing can take up to 7-10 business days.

For questions regarding your child's P-EBT card, you can contact NM PEBT Hotline at 1-833-415-0569 or the HSD Customer Consolidated Customer Service Center at 1-800-283-4465.

HSD is urging all customers to make sure the department has their latest contact information on file to ensure that written communication about their benefits is delivered to them in a timely manner. If customers have recently changed their phone number, they should provide their new contact information on the YESNM website: www.yes.state.nm.us. Customers can simply and easily update their address using the chat functionality there. Step-by-step directions on how to update your address are available here.

Answers to other frequently asked questions can also be found online at: https://www.hsd.state.nm.us/lookingforassistance/p-ebt/

K-12 students do not need to be currently receiving SNAP food benefits in order to qualify for P-EBT.

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We talk, interpret and smile in all languages. We provide written information to our customers in both English and Spanish and interpretation services are available in 58 languages through our provider, <u>CTS Language Link</u>. For our hearing, and speech impaired customers, we utilize <u>Relay New Mexico</u>, a free 24-hour service that ensures equal communication access via the telephone to individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled.

The Human Services Department provides services and benefits to 1,070,231 New Mexicans through several programs including: the Medicaid Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Child Support Program, and several Behavioral Health Services.