



SUMMER EBT

Keeping Kids Fed While School is Out

Hunger does not take a summer vacation. When school is out and kids don't have access to school meals, many families struggle to put affordable, high-quality food on the table. But there's a simple way to help families: the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (Summer EBT) Program, or SUN Bucks.

In 2022, Congress came together to pass Summer EBT, the first new federal nutrition program in decades. The U.S. Department of Agriculture officially launched the program in summer 2024.¹



Summer EBT is a proven strategy to support kids, families and communities.



Reduces food insecurity and improves diet quality

Summer EBT has been shown to reduce child hunger by 33%. It also increases kids' consumption of fruits, vegetables, whole grains and dairy, and reduces their consumption of sugary drinks.^{3,4}



Boosts the economy

Summer EBT improves the economy by empowering families to buy groceries locally and at farmers markets. This supports community producers, suppliers and transporters.⁵



Serves rural and suburban areas

Transportation issues can make it difficult for children in rural and suburban areas to reach summer meal program sites. Summer EBT would better serve these families.^{6,7,8}



Feeds more children

Existing summer meal programs only reach 14% of eligible students. Summer EBT can help get healthy meals to more families when school is out.⁹

HOW IT WORKS

Summer EBT provides eligible families with \$40 per child per month when school is out. Benefits come in the form of pre-loaded cards that families can use to buy groceries.²

