

Summer EBT

During the summer of 2024, Minnesota plans to introduce Summer EBT, a fresh initiative offering grocery benefits. This program will furnish families with \$120 per eligible school-aged child, aiding them in purchasing groceries when school is not in session. Summer often poses challenges for families as children lose access to meals provided at school, necessitating additional support for meal provision. While most families will receive these benefits automatically, some parents may need to apply.

Benefits of Summer EBT:

- Helps parents and caregivers buy healthy foods for their children.
- Gives families the flexibility to select foods that fit their culture and lifestyle.
- Improves food security and diet quality for participating children.

Eligibility:

Children are eligible for the program if:

- the household already participates in **SNAP, MFIP, FDPIR, Tribal TANF, Medicaid, and/or Foster Care**, OR
- the child attends a school that offers the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program and the household income meets the requirements for free or reduced-price school meals.

Enrollment:

Many families will get Summer EBT automatically if they are getting other benefits, but some families may need to apply.

- If the household already participates in **SNAP, MFIP, FDPIR, Tribal TANF, Medicaid, and/or Foster Care**, they will be automatically enrolled in the **Summer EBT** program. Households do not need to fill out an application.
- If the household is not automatically enrolled and may be eligible, they can get **Summer EBT** by filling out an application for educational benefits. This form can be downloaded from our website at <https://www.isd743.org/> under the Latest News Section.

To learn more about filling out an application, contact Sharon Haakinson at 320-352-2258 ext. 4000 or email: sharon.haakinson@isd743.org.

How Summer EBT Works:

The benefits will be **provided on a separate EBT card**, and can be used to buy groceries. Families will receive \$120 per eligible child for the summer. Benefits can be used at authorized retailers, like grocery stores and farmers' markets, to purchase healthy foods like fruits, vegetables, meats and other protein sources, whole grains, and dairy.

Children and teens need healthy food year-round to play, grow, and learn. **Summer EBT** will help families stretch their grocery budget during the summer and provide their children with the nutrition they need to thrive.