

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 19, 2020

Gary Sabol
360-618-6217

Arlington families who qualify for free or reduced-price school meals are eligible for extra food benefits

ARLINGTON- Due to COVID-19, children who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals at school will get extra food benefits. These food benefits are called Pandemic EBT, or P-EBT. The P-EBT helps families in Washington buy food when school is closed.

“Children are allowed to get free meals at our various meal distribution sites this summer and get P-EBT benefits at the same time – they are separate programs,” said Ed Aylesworth, Director of Nutrition and Support Services. “We know that many families have been impacted by COVID-19 and now may be eligible to receive both of these benefits.”

Every eligible child may receive up to a maximum of \$399 of P-EBT. Immigration status does not matter for P-EBT. These benefits will be on an Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) card which is used like a debit card to buy groceries.

If your child already receives free or reduced-price meals in school, you can apply for the P-EBT benefits by going to [WashingtonConnection.org](https://www.washingtonconnection.org) or by calling 877-501-2233. To find out if your child is eligible for free or reduced-price meals, you can complete a Free/Reduced-Price Meal Application in English (<https://bit.ly/APSMMealApplication>) or Spanish (<https://bit.ly/APSMMealApplicationSpanish>).

###

Get help buying groceries while schools are closed.

Pandemic EBT helps families who qualify for free and reduced-priced school meals buy groceries during school closures.



Learn more at k12.wa.us/PEBT



Washington Office of Superintendent of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



Washington State
Department of Social
& Health Services

Transforming lives