PANDEMIC EBT (P-EBT) BENEFITS

What is P-EBT?
Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) is a temporary food benefit available in Virginia to families with children who would have received free or reduced-price meals if schools were open. The program is authorized through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service. The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) and the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) are working together to operate the program.

Who is eligible for P-EBT benefits?
1. Households are eligible because they:
   - Include an eligible student(s) who, if not for the closure of their school, would receive free or reduced-price school meals; AND
   - Include a student whose school or school division has been closed for at least five consecutive days.
2. Virginia households are eligible if they have students who are either eligible for free or reduced-price school meals or enrolled in a school that provides free meals to all students through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) program or another provision.

How do I know if I am eligible for P-EBT benefits?
Hampton City Schools will provide information for all eligible students directly to VDSS. Households do not have to apply for P-EBT. If you believe there are eligible students in your household but you do not receive P-EBT by the middle of June, call (804) 726-7000.

When will P-EBT benefits be available?
If your family is currently receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and you are eligible for P-EBT, it will be added to your EBT card in the next two weeks. If your family is not receiving SNAP, you will receive a P-EBT card in the mail in the next four to six weeks. If you are the parent or guardian of multiple eligible students living in the same household at the same address, you may receive one P-EBT card with benefits for all eligible students.

People living in the same area with children who attend the same schools may not receive benefits at the same time. Eligible households will receive benefits for the entire period their students were eligible, even if they do not receive benefits until the end of May or June.

For more information and Frequently Asked Questions on P-EBT, please visit https://www.dss.virginia.gov/benefit/pebt.cgi

There is still time to apply for free or reduced-price meal benefits

Visit https://frapps.horizonsolana.com/HAMC06 or contact HCS Food and Nutrition Services at 757-727-2350.

Hampton City Schools
Every Child, Every Day, Whatever it Takes!

HCS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or other protected classes in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Robbin G. Ruth, Executive Director, Human Resources, One Franklin Street, Hampton, VA 23669 757-727-2000.

Pandemic-EBT

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!!

Please read this flyer carefully. If you are eligible, you will get a Virginia P-EBT Card in the mail, in the next 30 to 45 days.

The Virginia P-EBT Card will have food assistance benefits on it that can be used for food items anywhere SNAP benefits are accepted.

You did not apply for these benefits, but you have a student or students in your household who are eligible for free/reduced meals at their school. Because they are not in school right now, Virginia can give you these P-EBT food benefits to use.

Participation in the program is voluntary. If you choose not to participate in the program, please dispose of the card by cutting through the magnetic stripe on the card and discarding the card in a secure manner. You will not be able to redeem the food benefits, nor can you transfer the card to someone else.

If you have question, please contact 804-726-7000.

Question 1

What happens next?

A pre-loaded Virginia P-EBT Card will come in the mail. The card will be in the *parent or guardian's name*, as listed in local school division records. Please keep the card in case ongoing benefits become available.

Question 2

What if my child already receives SNAP benefits?

If your child/children receive SNAP benefits, the P-EBT benefits will be loaded onto your SNAP card, for most families. If the state was not able to match your information, a P-EBT card will be mailed.

Question 3

How much will be on the card?

The benefit amount for the total estimated period of school closure per child is a maximum of $376. Some students will get less because they became eligible later.

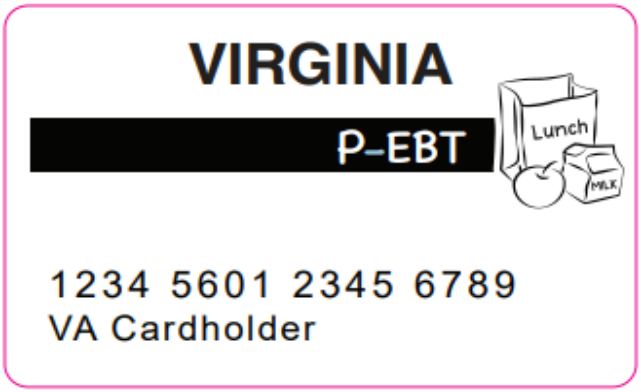
Question 4

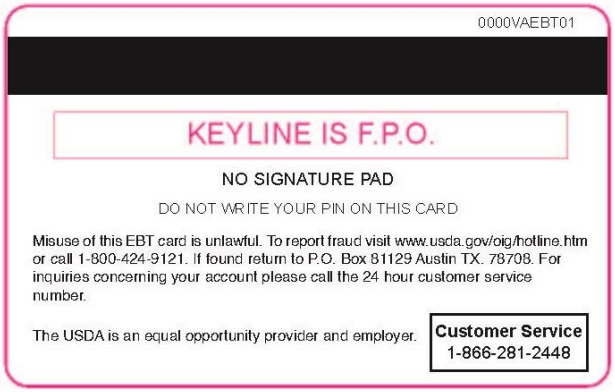
How do I activate the card?

There are three ways to activate your P-EBT card and manage your benefits account. You may call 1-866-281-2448, logon to https://www.connectebt.com/, or on your mobile device download the ConnectEBT app. Secure information detailing how to PIN your card will be included in the envelope with your card.

Pandemic EBT

The card you will receive will look like the card below. It can be used to purchase food items anywhere SNAP or EBT cards are accepted.





Question 5

How do I use the card?

Once activated, the card can be used to purchase eligible food items anywhere SNAP cards are accepted. You will need to use the PIN number you created when activating the card each time you shop. The card can be used in the point of sale device, just like a debit card or can be handed to the cashier.

Question 6

What if I do not want the benefits?

If you choose not to use the card, you must destroy it by cutting it across the magnetic strip and safely dispose of it. The card is not transferable and can not be gifted to someone else.

Question 7

Do I have to use all of my benefits at once?

No. The money will carry over on the card from month to month. After one year, unused P-EBT benefits will be removed from the card.

You may be eligible for additional assistance with food, medical insurance, and other VDSS programs. Apply online at https://commonhelp.virginia.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.
The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) does not discriminate against any individual or group because of race, religion, age, national origin, color, height, weight, marital status, genetic information, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political beliefs or disability.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES