

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Summer EBT is a new federal program to help families buy food for their school-aged children during the summer. Families will receive \$120 for each eligible child to buy groceries during the summer. Children who receive Summer EBT benefits can still participate in other summer meal programs. Receiving benefits will not affect children or families' immigration status.

In New Jersey, Summer EBT benefits will be loaded onto an EBT card and mailed to your home. If eligible, you can use the benefits to buy food like fruits, vegetables, meat, whole grains, and dairy at grocery stores, farmers markets, and other places that accept WIC or SNAP EBT benefits. Summer EBT is a convenient way for you to help your children thrive.

If your child is not automatically eligible through SNAP, TANF or Foster Care benefits and you <u>did not</u> complete and return a School Meals Application to your child's school, but believe your child may qualify, you are encouraged to complete a School Meals Application and submit it to your local school district **no later than May 1, 2024,** to see if you qualify for the Federal Summer EBT benefit prior to the start of summer. <u>Please click here for application</u>.

In addition to Summer EBT benefits, children under 18 years of age in your household can also receive free meals during the summer at all our schools with the exception of Thurgood Marshall.

If you have questions, you can contact Mrs. Ivy Brown at 732-776-2606 or Browni@apboe.org