

The state fact sheets include estimates of the impact of the permanent Summer EBT Program for summer 2024. These estimates are based on the most recent data available nationwide and provide a snapshot of potential impact. States may have more recent data.

Deadlines

The deadlines for submitting an intent to participate in Summer EBT and the administrative plan are set by the statutory language for Summer EBT as written in the <u>Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023</u>.

Eligible Children and Benefit Estimates

The source for the estimated number of school children eligible for Summer EBT is the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (USDA FNS) website resource entitled the "Estimated Number of Summer EBT Eligible Children Who Currently Do and Do Not Receive SNAP or NAP." The number is based on data for the 2022–2023 school year.

As stated in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023, the benefit amount for Summer EBT is \$40 per month per eligible child, adjusted for inflation each year. States will provide three months of data, with benefits totaling \$120 in the summer of 2024. The monthly benefit will be higher in Alaska, Hawaii, and the U.S. territories (including American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands) to account for the higher cost of food outside of the continental U.S. The benefit levels for these states and territories are not yet available. Using \$120 to calculate the impact of Summer EBT, this estimate offers a baseline for understanding the impact of Summer EBT.

Economic Impact

Summer EBT benefit dollars function in much the same way as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit dollars. SNAP has many benefits for the economy, including increasing the purchasing power of families for groceries and infusing dollars into local economies. The infusing of benefit dollars leads to a multiplier effect at the local level, where dollars spent from SNAP (and by extension, Summer EBT) allow businesses and their employees additional funds to function and make purchases of their own.

In <u>a report published</u> by USDA Economic Research Service in 2019, researchers found that for every dollar of SNAP benefits spent, between \$1.50 and \$1.80 was generated for the local economy in times of economic downturn. As Summer EBT benefits function as SNAP benefits, the same impact is expected for this program.

To estimate the economic impact of Summer EBT, Food Research & Action Center utilized the state's or territory's total predicted benefit amount, the methodology of which is described in the previous section, and multiplied that number by 1.5 to calculate the lower end of the economic impact range. For the higher end of the economic impact range, the total predicted benefit amount was multiplied by 1.8.

