



Food and Nutrition
Service

1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA
22314

February 10, 2021

**SUBJECT: Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer Program (P-EBT)
Approval of the District of Columbia's State Plan Amendment**

**TO: Dr. Patty Bennett
Acting Regional Administrator
Mid-Atlantic Regional Office**

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (P.L. 116-127) (the Act) authorized a temporary assistance program for households with children affected by school closures during the public health emergency declared on January 27, 2020. Pursuant to the authority granted under Section 1101 of the Act, FNS approved the District of Columbia's plan to operate P-EBT for school year 2019-2020 on May 20. FNS approved an amendment for the District of Columbia to operate P-EBT through September 30 of the 2020-2021 school year on September 21.

The District of Columbia proposes to amend its approved P-EBT plan for school year 2019-2020 and its amended plan for the start of school year 2020-2021 to issue benefits to eligible children who did not receive benefits due to various data problems. The District of Columbia also proposes to increase benefits previously issued to children under its September 21 plan amendment by \$0.96 for each virtual learning day, as authorized by USDA in January.

The District of Columbia has identified:

- 2,580 children who were eligible for P-EBT in SY 2019-2020 but did not receive benefits because their address information was invalid or unreliable; these children will receive benefits equal to \$5.70 per day.
- 11,858 children who were eligible for P-EBT in SY 2020-2021 through September 30, 2020 but did not receive P-EBT benefits due to errors or missing information at the time September benefits were issued; these children will receive benefits equal to \$6.82 per virtual learning day.
- 58,668 children who received P-EBT benefits from the start of the current school year through September 30; these children will receive additional benefits of \$0.96 per virtual learning day.

FNS approves the District of Columbia's P-EBT plan amendment. The District of Columbia estimates that it will issue \$4.1 million in P-EBT benefits to approximately 73,000 children.

The State agency must notify the FNS Regional Office immediately if it is preparing to issue an amount different than the estimate in this plan.

FNS reminds the District of Columbia of the importance of accurate reporting of P-EBT benefits on forms FNS-292B, FNS-46, and FNS-388. Please refer to FNS's [April 27 memo on P-EBT reporting](#), and do not hesitate to contact your Regional Office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Cindy Long
Deputy Administrator
Child Nutrition Programs