

# SUN BUCKS Outreach Partners

# SUN Bucks summer EBT is returning to Louisiana!

A healthier future for our state begins with our children. Unfortunately, many Louisiana children face hunger during the summer when they lose access to school meals. SUN Bucks, a summer grocery benefits program, helps bridge the gap when school is out by providing families with a single, one-time \$120 benefit for each eligible child. Most eligible children will get these benefits automatically, but some parents will need to apply. The program operates in addition to other summer feeding programs.

## **Benefits of SUN Bucks**

- Provides food assistance in the summer months.
- Gives families the flexibility to select foods that fit their lifestyle.
- Improves food security for participating children.

# Eligibility

#### Children are automatically eligible for SUN Bucks if:

- The child was born between August 8, 2006, and July 1, 2019, and they received SNAP, FITAP, KCSP, or income-based Medicaid anytime between July 1, 2024, and August 8, 2025.
- The child applied and was individually approved to receive free or reduced-price school meals through the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Program.

**Children who attend Community Eligibility Provision schools** and do not receive any of the above benefits will need to apply to determine eligibility.

Even if a child doesn't fall into one of the categories above, they may still be eligible for SUN Bucks based on the family's income.

Under federal rules, SUN Bucks benefits must be used within 122 days of being loaded to an EBT card. Any unused benefits on the card after 122 days will expire. Expired benefits cannot be replaced or put back on the household's card.





## SUN (M) BUCKS



Most families will get SUN Bucks automatically if they receive SNAP, FITAP, KCSP, or income-based Medicaid, but some families may need to apply for the program.

Parents will have questions about eligibility, how to apply for SUN Bucks, or how the program works. Direct them to the right source of information at <u>sunbucks.la.gov</u>.

### **How SUN Bucks work**

Like SNAP, SUN Bucks benefits are loaded onto an EBT card. Families can use their SUN Bucks to buy fruits, vegetables, meat, grains, and dairy at grocery stores, farmers' markets, and other food retailers that accept SNAP benefits, including these <u>online retailers</u>.

SUN Bucks will be added to families current SNAP cards for SNAP recipients. Families who got SUN Bucks in 2024 will receive benefits on the same card for 2025. New participants (not in SNAP) will receive a new card by mail.

# Help families in your community

- Spread the word in your community! Let households know about the new SUN Bucks program.
- Encourage families receiving benefits through SNAP, FITAP, KCSP, and Medicaid to make sure their mailing address is up-to-date.
- Tell SNAP families automatically enrolled to watch for benefits loaded on their existing SNAP EBT card or last year's EBT card. All other eligible children will receive an EBT card preloaded with SUN Bucks benefits.
- If families have lost their EBT card, advise them to either call 1-888-997-1117, visit www.LifeInCheckEBT.com, use the LifeInCheck EBT app, or use CAFE to request a replacement.

To learn more about SUN Bucks, visit sunbucks.la.gov or scan the QR code





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