

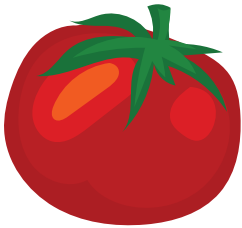
# Louisiana SUN Bucks

## Schools & School Districts



## Maximizing the impact of SUN Bucks in 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. This summer Louisiana will launch SUN Bucks, a new grocery benefits program that provides families \$120 for each eligible school-aged child to buy food when school is out. Most families will get these benefits automatically, but some parents will need to apply. The new program is in addition to the newly expanded summer feeding options that kids of all ages can get at [summer meal sites](#) across the state.



### How SUN Bucks benefit your students

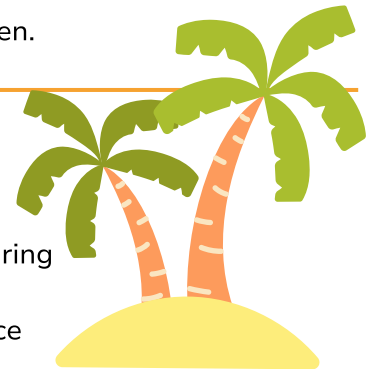
- Helps parents and caregivers buy healthy foods for their children.
- Gives families the flexibility to select foods that fit their culture and lifestyle.
- Improves food security and diet quality for participating children.



## Eligibility

Children are automatically eligible for the program if:

- the child received SNAP, FITAP, KCSP or Medicaid (income-based) benefits during the 2023-24 school year.
- 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 may be eligible for SUN Bucks, but will need to apply to determine eligibility if:

- the child is experiencing homelessness.
- the child is a migrant.
- the child receives free or reduced-price school meals but did not complete an application.

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.

SUN Bucks is not the same as P-EBT. Some children who received P-EBT will not be eligible for SUN Bucks. SUN Bucks will not be issued to P-EBT cards.





## Steps to maximize SUN Bucks for your students

### Educate families

**Encourage families to use SUN Bucks.** Make sure eligible families know how to access this new program. School districts, school nutrition professionals, teachers and other personnel have a unique ability to inform families about SUN Bucks. Students and families are still learning what summer food service options are available to them. Help spread the word about SUN Bucks and other feeding programs in your community.

### Help with questions

**Direct parents to the right source of information.** Parents will have questions about eligibility, how to apply for SUN Bucks or how the program works. Direct them to the [sunbucks.la.gov](https://sunbucks.la.gov) website for more information. Or download shareable resources from the SUN Bucks online tool kit.



## How SUN Bucks work

SUN Bucks work just like SNAP, with benefits loaded onto an EBT card. Families can use their SUN Bucks to buy food like fruits, vegetables, meat, whole grains, and dairy at grocery stores, farmers' markets, and other places that accept SNAP benefits, including some [online retailers](#).



## More ways to help families in your community

- Spread the word ! Let households know about the new SUN Bucks program.
- Encourage families to ensure their mailing address is up-to-date on their SNAP, FITAP, KCSP or Medicaid case, and with their child's school or foster care worker.
- Tell SNAP families automatically enrolled to watch for benefits loaded on their existing SNAP EBT card. All other eligible children will receive an EBT card preloaded with SUN Bucks benefits.
- Inform households that immigrant and non-U.S. citizens are eligible for SUN Bucks. Participation does not impact immigration status.
- Encourage eligible families to apply when the application period begins later this summer.

To learn more about SUN Bucks, visit [sunbucks.la.gov](https://sunbucks.la.gov) or scan the QR code

