



**EVERY STUDENT.
EVERY DAY.**

P.O. Box R
400 North Elm Street
Cortez, Colorado 81321
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www.cortez.k12.co.us

Important Information Regarding Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT)

Dear Parents and Guardians,

You may have heard about a new program authorized by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) called Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer or P-EBT for short. This program intends to provide financial assistance to families of children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals who have lost access to food due to the school closures caused by COVID-19. The financial assistance will be distributed to eligible families on new or existing Colorado EBT cards. The average P-EBT benefit is \$5.70/child per day or up to \$279 per eligible child, retroactive to when school initially closed.

If your family is already participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and possesses an EBT card, the P-EBT benefits will automatically be loaded onto your card within the month of July 2020. **If your family is not currently enrolled in SNAP benefits, you must complete an application to receive P-EBT.**

Receiving these benefits will **not** affect your immigration or public charge status. All families who are eligible for P-EBT may receive it, regardless of immigration status. P-EBT is a pandemic emergency benefit based on free or reduced-price school meal eligibility, and similar to other benefits that the Department Homeland Security has stated that it is excluded from consideration in public charge. Household information that is used to determine eligibility is protected under both federal and state data privacy practices.

To successfully complete the P-EBT application, you will need your child(ren)'s State Assigned Student ID (SASID) number.

If you are interested in applying for P-EBT, contact Mark Knox, Director of Technology, mknnox@cortez.k12.co.us or 970-564-4199 to obtain the required SASID

Upon approval, an EBT card with the qualifying amount will be mailed to you. To access the P-EBT application visit: <https://www.colorado.gov/cdhs/p-ebt>.

For more information about P-EBT, please visit Colorado Department of Human Services' Frequently Asked Questions [webpage](#). If you have further questions, please contact pebt2020@state.co.us and a representative will respond.

If you have other questions or need help, contact Sandi Vanhoutean, 970-565-5157, svanhoutean@cortez.k12.co.us



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Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the [USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form](#), (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;
- (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

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