



Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Program

Frequently Asked Questions

May 14, 2024



The NDE hosted two training opportunities. The recording is available here:

https://youtu.be/h_7t7TtbfRs

Access the SEBT file Upload Template here: [SEBT File Upload Template](#)

Access the SEBT Upload Instructions here: [SEBT File Upload Instructions](#)

Eligibility

Q1: If my school does not have any Free or Reduced-price meal eligible students because of a meal application, do I need to submit a completed SEBT template?

A: Maybe. You do need to complete and submit the SEBT template for students who live in a household with a student directly certified for SNAP, TANF, FDPIR, MFREE, or MRED. The NDE is not aware of students who may have meal benefits extended to them and needs schools to include these students in their SEBT data upload.

Q2: Should ESUs submit data for students who receive services at their locations?

A: No, the original (home) school at which those students are enrolled should submit data for eligible students.

Q3: Should I include 12th graders/graduating seniors in my SEBT data submission even if they will not be living at their current home/residence with their parent/guardian in summer 2024?

A: Yes, if they are eligible for Free or Reduced-price school meals in SY2023-24, they should be included in your SEBT template with the currently known mailing address.

Q4: Should I include preschool students enrolled in my school in my SEBT data submission?

A: It depends. If those students receive meals through the National School Lunch Program and are eligible for Free or Reduced-price meals in SY2023-24 then they should be included in your SEBT data submission.

If the preschool students do not have access to NSLP meals during the school day, they should not be included in your SEBT data submission.

Q5: How do students who attend Community Eligibility Provision Schools qualify for SEBT?

A: Schools should include these students in their SEBT data upload:

- Students living with a student matched for SNAP, TANF, FDPIR, MFREE, MRED;
- Students directly certified (matched) for foster, migrant, homeless; and
- If available, students who submitted an alternate income application/form with reported household size and income that matches the Free and/or Reduced price meal [income guidelines used in the school nutrition programs](#).

Q6. If students at CEP schools do not meet the above eligibility criteria, can they apply for SEBT?

A: Yes, students not previously identified as eligible may complete the SEBT application which will be available at <http://www.education.ne.gov/ns> after June 1, 2024. These applications are subject to verification. SEBT applications will be processed by the NDE; notice of approval or denial will be provided; and the SEBT application is not an application for SY2024-25 school meals program meal benefits.

Q7: Should school districts include students who attend alternative schools in their SEBT data upload?

A: Yes, if those students attend an alternative school at which National School Lunch Program (NSLP) meals are served.

However, students should not be included in your SEBT upload if they attend an alternative school that does not provide meals through the NSLP.

Q8: For situations where custody is shared, which parent/guardian should be identified in the SEBT data for card issuance?

A: Provide the parent/guardian information and mailing address for the adult listed as the primary/first contact in your school's information for that student; or provide the information for the parent/guardian with whom the student will spend the majority of the summer.

Data Upload

Q9: Where do I upload a complete SEBT template?

A: Upload your complete template in the NDE Portal, accessible here: <https://portal.education.ne.gov/>

Q10: Why is my SEBT template not uploading successfully?

A: Ensure your file is saved as the most current version of Excel by choosing the .xlsx file type when you save it.

Please use five digits for every zip code, do not include commas or other special characters, format date of birth in one of these ways: MM/DD/YYYY or M/D/YYYY, and ensure all NDE (state) IDs have 10 digits.

Information for Schools and Households

Q11: How will households receive SEBT cards for eligible students in their household?

A: The cards will be issued by mail and will arrive in a plain, white envelope. Card issuance dates and expungement deadlines by which funds must be used are in the table below.

Streamline certified students are those who receive SNAP, TANF, FDPIR, or Medicaid that qualifies the student for Free or Reduced-price school meals. SEBT cards for streamline certified students will begin on May 28 and will be complete on June 10. The expungement date for these cards is September 30, 2024

Data Submission Deadline	SEBT Card Issuance	Benefits Expungement Date
NA for Streamline Certified Students	May 18 – June 10, 2024	September 30, 2024
May 3 – May 17 (foster, migrant, homeless, students who live in household with SNAP, TANF, FDPIR, or Medicaid student who qualifies for Free or Reduced-price school meals, or by school meal benefits household application)	June 20, 2024	October 20, 2024
May 18 – June 13	July 19, 2024	November 18, 2024
June 14 – July 14	August 20, 2024	December 20, 2024
July 15 – September 3	September 10, 2024	January 10, 2025

Q12: Who can a household contact with questions about their student's eligibility and/or card issuance?

A: Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has a website dedicated to SEBT with answers to many frequent questions:

<https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Summer-EBT.aspx>.

DHHS Summer EBT phone numbers are:

- Toll Free: 800-383-4278
- Lincoln: 402-323-3900 – Option 5
- Omaha: 402-595-1258 – Option 5

DHHS Summer EBT email address: DHHS.SEBT@nebraska.gov

Q13: Who can a school contact with questions about their students' eligibility and/or card issuance?

A: Send your SEBT related questions, including questions about eligibility and uploading your student information, to: NDE.SEBT@nebraska.gov.