



**Office of the Superintendent**

Dr. Brenda Cassellius  
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May 13, 2020

Dear Boston Public Schools Families:

Beginning this month, every Boston Public Schools (BPS) family will be receiving financial assistance for food due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds are available under a new program called Pandemic EBT (Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer) or P-EBT.

As BPS provides free meals to all students, every BPS child is qualified to receive P-EBT funds. **You will receive \$5.70 per eligible child** per day for every day school is closed due to the pandemic, or \$28.50 a week.

If you do not currently have an EBT card, you will **receive a P-EBT card in the mail in May at the home address on file with your child's school**. Each enrolled BPS child in the household will receive a unique P-EBT card. If you currently have an EBT card, funds will be added to your account. The card is valid for one full year, and funds can be used to buy food items at stores where SNAP benefits (food stamps) are accepted (look for signs that say, "We accept EBT here"). Families are not required to use P-EBT funds. For more information, please visit [www.MAp-EBT.org](http://www.MAp-EBT.org) or contact [food@boston.gov](mailto:food@boston.gov).

**IMPORTANT: Using your P-EBT card does not impact you or your child's immigration status. The public charge rule does not apply to this program.**

If you do not receive funds by mid-May or have questions, please call Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline at 800-645-8333. The FoodSource Hotline is open to all Massachusetts residents, with support available in 160 languages. Call 800-645-8333 to find out how you can get additional food support for your family during this time.

The City of Boston provides [free meals for families](#) every weekday, available at 65 locations throughout the city. [BPS has 17 sites](#) with free breakfast and lunch available for pick-up Monday - Friday, 8:30-11:30 am. You can use the P-EBT card and continue to pick up meals at the sites.

Please continue to practice safe social distancing and wear a face covering while outdoors. Visit [bostonpublicschools.org/coronavirus](http://bostonpublicschools.org/coronavirus) for additional resources and updates. We know these are difficult times, and we are here to support you. This incredible challenge will make our community stronger as long as we continue working together.

Stay safe and healthy.

Dr. Brenda Cassellius  
Superintendent

