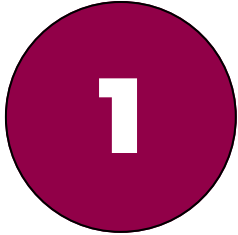




SUN Bucks Benefits

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY THE SFA

The Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer Program (SUN Bucks) provides a one-time summer benefit amount of \$120 per eligible child to purchase groceries during the summer when school is not in session. The following resource outlines the actions required by School Food Authorities (SFA) to ensure accurate and timely issuance for SUN Bucks.



REPORTING STUDENT DATA AND ELIGIBILITY

SFA's primary responsibility for the SUN Bucks Program is ensuring accurate student-level enrollment and free and reduced-price eligibility is provided to ADE via the CNP Summer EBT - SUN Bucks Data Portal in ADEConnect annually.

KEY DATES

DATES OF ENROLLMENT

July 1 - June 30

All students who were enrolled at least one day from **July 1 to the last day of the academic school year or June 30**, whichever comes first must be reported.

DATES OF ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS

July 1, 2025 - August 3, 2026

SFAs are to report free and reduced-price eligibility for students' **eligibility determinations made up to August 3, 2026**. This means, SFAs are to report any new or changed free or reduced-price eligibility determinations for students who were enrolled from July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026 up to August 3, 2026.

ACTION

COLLABORATE WITH SIS REPRESENTATIVE

Throughout the School Year

SFAs should be working closely with their Student Information System (SIS) contact to ensure student data from the Point of Service (POS) system matches the data maintained by the SIS.

A strong collaboration between School Nutrition and SIS is imperative for the success of SUN Bucks. By periodically verifying student data is consistent and accurate, SFAs will be better able to assure students who qualify will receive the SUN Bucks benefit at the soonest availability.

ACTION

REPORT STUDENT DATA

April 2026 - August 3, 2026

SFAs are responsible for logging into the CNP Summer EBT - SUN Bucks Data Portal in ADEConnect and:

- **Reviewing Pre-Populated Student Data (Students Reported in AzEDs):** SFAs should ensure pre-populated data elements in the ADEConnect Application - CNP Summer EBT- SUN Bucks Data Portal are accurate first before manually adding or uploading enrollment and eligibility data.
- **Manually Adding/Uploading Student Information (Non-AzEDs):** SFAs must add or upload student data for any students who were enrolled for at least one day from July 1 to the last day of the academic school year or June 30, whichever comes first if students are not already pre-populated. This includes student level enrollment and free and reduced-price eligibility data for any Bureau of Indian Education schools, private schools, and schools with pre-K or federally funded Head Start students.

For more information, please review ADE HNS' How to Report Students for Summer-EBT in the CNP Summer EBT - SUN Bucks Portal Quick Guide.



ADE needs to know all students who were enrolled (even those who are not free or reduced-price eligible) as verifying NSLP enrollment is required for reviewing SUN Bucks applications submitted to ADE. If ADE cannot verify NSLP enrollment, a student will be denied even if their household income meets eligibility.



SUN Bucks Benefits

ACTIONS REQUIRED BY THE SFA



PROMOTING SUN BUCKS

Additionally, SFAs are responsible for promoting SUN Bucks and distributing ADE’s SUN Bucks household application to families who are not automatically certified as eligible for the SUN Bucks benefit but who would otherwise qualify.

SUN BUCKS APPLICATION FOR HOUSEHOLDS

The SUN Bucks household application allows students enrolled for at least one instructional school day between July 1- June 30, who were not previously certified as free or reduced-price eligible, to apply for the SUN Bucks benefit.

School Food Authorities (SFAs) must make the SUN Bucks application available to households they believe are eligible for the SUN Bucks benefit but were not identified as eligible by the SFA. This includes students who attended a school participating in a Special Provision Option who were not directly certified but believe they may be eligible. These households may complete and submit the SUN Bucks Application to ADE by August 3. ADE will process the application and notify the household of eligibility.

- For more information about eligibility for the SUN Bucks benefit, please review the [Summer-EBT Eligibility Flowchart](#).

The 2026 Application for the Arizona Summer EBT (SUN Bucks) Benefits is available!

- There is both an online and paper version of the application.
- The online application is accessed by completing the SUN Bucks Eligibility Screener Guide.
- Both versions of the application are available on [ADE HNS’ SUN Bucks webpage](#) - How do I Apply for SUN Bucks? accordion.

PROMOTIONAL RESOURCES

- [USDA’s SUN Programs Communications Toolkit](#)
- [ADE HNS’ SUN Bucks Webpages](#)

NEED HELP OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

SFA QUESTIONS: SFAs with questions or those that require any assistance can email SUNBucks@azed.gov.

QUESTIONS FROM HOUSEHOLDS: SFAs may direct households with questions to the SUN Bucks parent hotline: (833) 648-4406, SUN Bucks email: SUNBucks@azed.gov, or the [SUN Bucks for Parents and Families webpage](#).



SFAs are responsible for staying up-to-date on all program requirements. Actions requiring change will be announced by HNS Communications.