



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**Executive Office of Health and Human Services**  
**Department of Transitional Assistance**

**MAURA T. HEALEY**  
GOVERNOR

**KATHLEEN E. WALSH**  
SECRETARY

**KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**JEFF McCUE**  
COMMISSIONER

**Online Guide Transmittal 2023-62**  
**August 23, 2023**

**To: Department of Transitional Assistance Staff**  
**From: Sarah Stuart, Associate Commissioner for Change Management**  
**Re: Cross Program: P-EBT Benefits for Home-Schooled and Virtual Learners**

---

**Overview**

As part of the plan for P-EBT benefits for School Year (SY) 2022-2023, virtual and home-schooled learners are able to apply for P-EBT benefits. Beginning August 25, 2023, virtual and home-schooled learners may only apply for P-EBT benefits via an online application on DTACConnect.com.

Applications from home-schooled and virtual learners will not be processed by DTA staff. Master Data Management (MDM) will verify free or reduced lunch eligibility for SY 2022-2023 by looking at the historical benefit records from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 to determine if the applicant was, at any time, enrolled in an appropriate Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) benefit (i.e., qualifying MassHealth participant, was a foster child, or was receiving SSI).

The Department of Early and Secondary Education (DESE) will review any P-EBT virtual & home-school applications not validated by MDM. Verifications provided for home-schooled or virtual P-EBT applicants will not be assigned to case managers or FAWs. These verifications will be reviewed by DESE for application processing.

---

**Purpose**

The purpose of this Online Guide Transmittal is to advise staff of the P-EBT application process for home-schooled and virtual learners.

---

**New Online  
Guide Pages**

<b>Topic:</b>	COVID-19
<b>Book:</b>	P-EBT
<b>Page:</b>	Home-Schooled and Virtual Learners

---

**Questions**

If you have any policy or procedural questions, after conferring with the appropriate TAO personnel, please have your Systems Information Specialists or TAO management email them to [DTA.Procedural Issues](#).

Systems issues should be directed to the Systems Support Help Desk.

---