MAY 28, 2024

PE ELL SCHOOL WILL NOT HAVE A SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM THIS YEAR!

## WASHINGTON SUN BUCKS SUMMER EBT PROGRAM

Beginning this summer of 2024, the state of Washington will launch a new Summer EBT program called SUN Bucks. The program will provide families with \$120 for each eligible schoolaged child to buy food when school is out.



Eligible families will receive a one-time payment of \$120 in food benefits on a dedicated SUN Bucks EBT card. SUN Bucks will be issued beginning mid-June through the end of August 2024. This is a separate program from the Pandemic EBT (P-EBT). Once qualified, families will receive an approval notice and a new SUN Bucks EBT card within 7 to 10 business days via U.S. Mail. SUN Bucks benefits expire 122 days from issuance. Please remember to hold on to your card for any future support. If would like to decline the funds, please see the instructions in the approval notice letter.

Please verify your mailing address is up to date, <u>in your Skyward</u> account to ensure the SUN Bucks EBT card is sent to the correct address.

For more information about the Washington SUN Bucks Summer EBT Program, please visit the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services website at: https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sunbucks

## **Eligibility**

- Children who live in a household already receiving assistance program benefits (SNAP, TANF, FDPIR), OR
- Child attends a school that operates the National School Meal Program (K-12th grade), AND
  - Is directly certified for free and reduced-price school meals, OR
  - Submit a qualifying Family Income Survey by June 12, 2024

Pe Ell School students have access to meals at no cost during the 2023-24 and 2024-25 school year through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), but only students who qualify for free/reduced meal status (directly from Washington State or have been approved on a <a href="Family-Income Survey">Family Income Survey</a> will receive the SUN Bucks benefit.

## **Questions?**

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact **Melissa Holmes** at 360-291-3244 x3042. or email <a href="mailto:mholmes@peell.k12.wa.us">mholmes@peell.k12.wa.us</a> Families who need to apply or who have other questions about SUN Bucks benefits can call the SUN Bucks Contact Center at 1-833-543-3230 (TTY: 1-800-833-6348) between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday—Friday (except observed holidays). Later this month, families can opt in for text messaging alerts about their child's SUN Bucks status at <a href="mailto:textsunbucks.dshs.wa.gov">textsunbucks.dshs.wa.gov</a>.

## **Contact Information**

OSPI Contact: Katy Payne, <a href="mailto:katy.payne@k12.wa.us">katy.payne@k12.wa.us</a>, 360-764-0201

DSHS Contact: Norah West, <a href="mailto:norah.west@dshs.wa.gov">norah.west@dshs.wa.gov</a>, 360-902-7833

Pe Ell School District may not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, veteran or military status, or the use of a service animal by a person with a disability, and must provide equal access to all designated youth groups. For questions or complaints, please contact Pe Ell School District's Equity and Civil Rights Office at PO Box 368, Pe Ell, WA 98572 or at (360)291-3244, Compliance Officer, Kyle MacDonald, kmacdonald@peell.k12.wa.us; Title IX Officer, Keith Shepherd, kshepherd@peell.k12.wa.us; and 504 Coordinator, Kyle MacDonald, kmacdonald@peell.k12.wa.us.