

Eligibility

Streamlined Certification. A student is **automatically eligible** for 2024 SUN Bucks in either of these scenarios:

1. Enrolled any time during 2023-2024 in an NSLP/SBP-participating school **and** qualified for free or reduced-price meals based on,
 - DC (SNAP, TANF, or MA with qualifying income), or
 - DC by extension within a household, or
 - Other categorical eligibility (homeless, foster, migrant, runaway, or Head Start), or
 - Household application for free/reduced school meals
2. Not enrolled in an NSLP/SBP-participating school but is eligible to be DC (State's DC list) **and** is of compulsory age (6 – 18 years).

SUN Bucks Application. Most families will **NOT** need to apply for SUN Bucks. Families only need to apply if their child is not identified as automatically eligible **and** attends an NSLP/SBP-participating school.

Students at CEP schools are not automatically eligible for SUN Bucks, even though they receive free meals during the regular school year. They must be DC or categorically eligible to automatically receive the SUN Bucks benefit.

SUN Bucks Application



Most families will not need to apply for 2024 SUN Bucks since the bulk of eligible students will be captured automatically by being eligible for free/reduced meals at NSLP/SBP schools or being on the state's DC list and of compulsory age (if not attending an NSLP/SBP school).

If a child is not identified as automatically eligible but the family believes they are and the child attended an NSLP/SBP participating school any time during the 2023-2024 school year, they can apply for SUN Bucks through DHS.

The application is expected to be available by July 1, 2024, as a fillable PDF in English and Spanish on the DHS SUN Bucks webpage, and as a paper form available upon request at the family's County Assistance Office (CAO).

CAO addresses can be found at <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/services/assistance/pages/cao-contact.aspx>

DHS will review SUN Bucks applications to confirm that the student attends an NSLP/SBP-participating school and that the family's income is below 185% of the federal poverty level at the time of application.

Families who apply but don't meet qualifying criteria will be sent denial letters from DHS. Schools should guide denied families to contact their local CAO if the family contacts the school about the denial.