

# Welcome to Lunch and Learn for Oceans of Possibilities and Summer 2022!

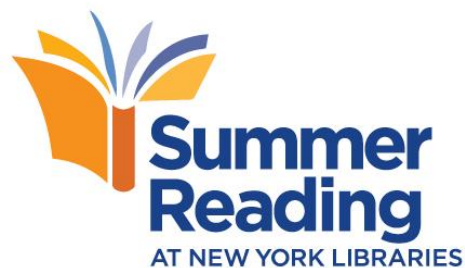
- Today's session about the Summer Meals program is part of the New York State Library's **Summer Reading at New York Libraries** Youth Services initiative
- For updates and useful resources about Summer Reading or to find out more about Summer Reading partner organizations, please visit: [www.summerreadingnys.org](http://www.summerreadingnys.org)
- Questions about Summer Reading? Contact Sharon Phillips, Youth Services Program Manager at [nyslyouth@nysed.gov](mailto:nyslyouth@nysed.gov)



*This webinar is supported by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds that were awarded to the New York State Library by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).*

By working together to coordinate Summer Reading activities with the Summer Meals program, public libraries and schools can form a winning partnership that benefits students and families.

Thank you for joining us to learn the many ways your library can participate in the Summer Food Service program in 2022.



# Hunger Solutions New York is a statewide anti-hunger organization.

We increase **awareness** of, **support** for, and **participation** in federal nutrition assistance programs.

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
- School Breakfast Program (SBP)
- Community Eligibility Program (CEP)
- Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT)

# Today's Agenda

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- **Status updates:**
  - Food insecurity amid COVID-19
- **How libraries can help!**
  - Summer meals
  - Connecting families with additional supports
  - Sharing information with schools, CBOs, and child care providers to increase meal access throughout your community
- **Q&A/Discussion**

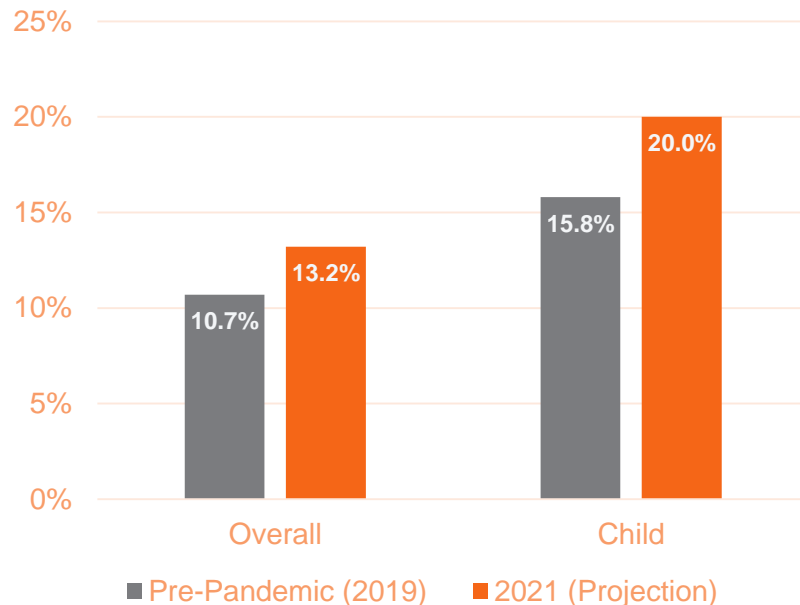


# Food Insecurity Amid COVID-19

In New York:

- **1 in 5 children** experienced food insecurity in 2021, according to Feeding America projections.
- Overall, more than **1 in 10** New Yorkers experienced food insecurity **even before the pandemic**.

Rates of Food Insecurity Overall and for Children, New York, 2019 and 2021



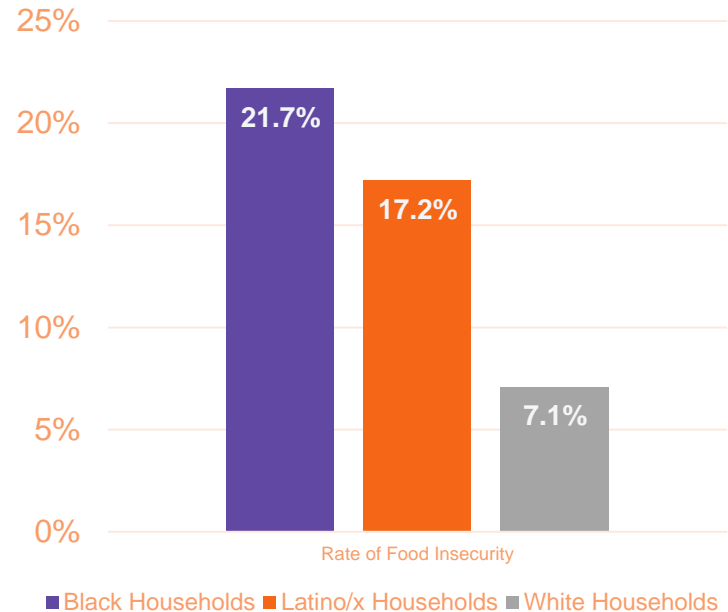
Source: Feeding America. (2021). [State-By-State Resource: The Impact of Coronavirus on Food Insecurity](#).

# Food Insecurity Amid COVID-19

Nationally, COVID-19 response efforts kept overall levels of food insecurity fairly stable from 2019 to 2020; however:

- **14.8% of households with children** experienced food insecurity in 2020, compared to 13.6% in 2019.
- **Black and Latino/x households** experienced food insecurity at rates **3x** and **2x** the rate of White households, respectively.

Household Food Insecurity by Race/Ethnicity, United States, 2020



Source: Alisha Coleman-Jensen, Matthew P. Rabbitt, Christian A. Gregory, and Anita Singh. 2021. [Household Food Security in the United States in 2020](#), ERR-298, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service

# Food Insecurity Amid COVID-19

**COVID-19 response** included:

- SNAP emergency allotments
- Pandemic-EBT
- Free school meals for all
- WIC boosted benefits & remote services
- Increased access to summer/afterschool meals
- Child Tax Credit + other investments that help alleviate food insecurity

As these temporary measures expire, many families face a **looming hunger cliff**.



# Summer Meals

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Through USDA's [Summer Food Service Program](#), schools and community organizations — including libraries! — can provide **free, healthy meals** for kids and teens during the summer break, when kids lose access to school meals.





# Summer Meals

Summer reading and summer meals are a natural fit:

- Healthy meals **fuel learning**.
- Activities **reduce stigma**.

In 2019, **133 NY libraries** were approved to serve summer meals. Even during the pandemic, **39 libraries** served as summer meal sites.

Other libraries are **bringing summer reading programming to nearby sites** (e.g., hosting story time or sending a bookmobile to local sites).

"It was easy to do, **brought families to the library**, served our existing patrons, and **feeds hungry kids**."

- Margie Menard, Director,  
Kingston Library, Ulster County



**Flower Memorial Library**, Jefferson County  
Sponsor: Community Action Planning Council



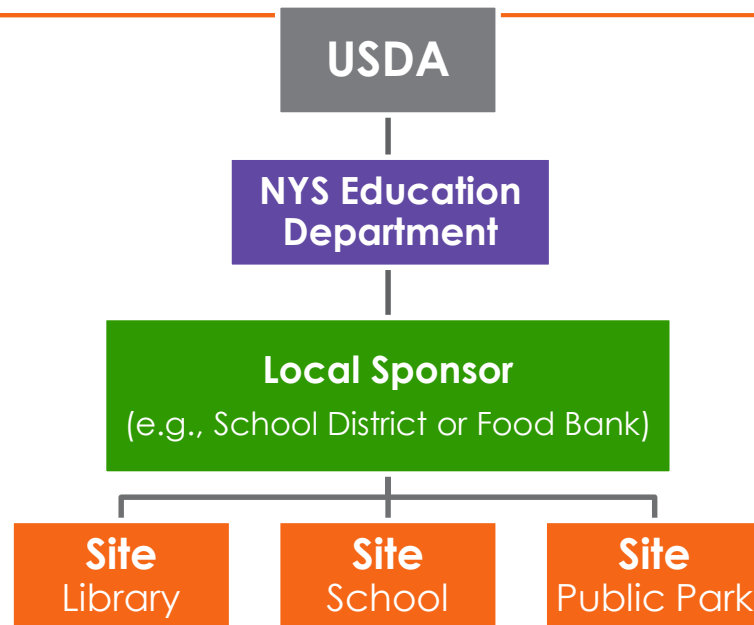
**Stillwater Public Library**, Saratoga County  
Sponsor: CAPTAIN Community Human Services

# Summer Meals

Locally, summer meals operate through:

- **Sponsors**, such as school districts or food banks, that manage the program and procure meals.
- **Sites**, the locations where kids get meals.

To get started, find a local sponsor using our [directory](#).



# Summer Meals

At “open” summer meal sites, **any child or teen** 18 and under can drop by for a meal at **no cost**.

Ordinarily:

- Kids **eat at the site** in a congregate setting
- Open sites must be located in **eligible low-income areas**, defined as areas where 50% or more of the community's children qualify for free or reduced-price school meals

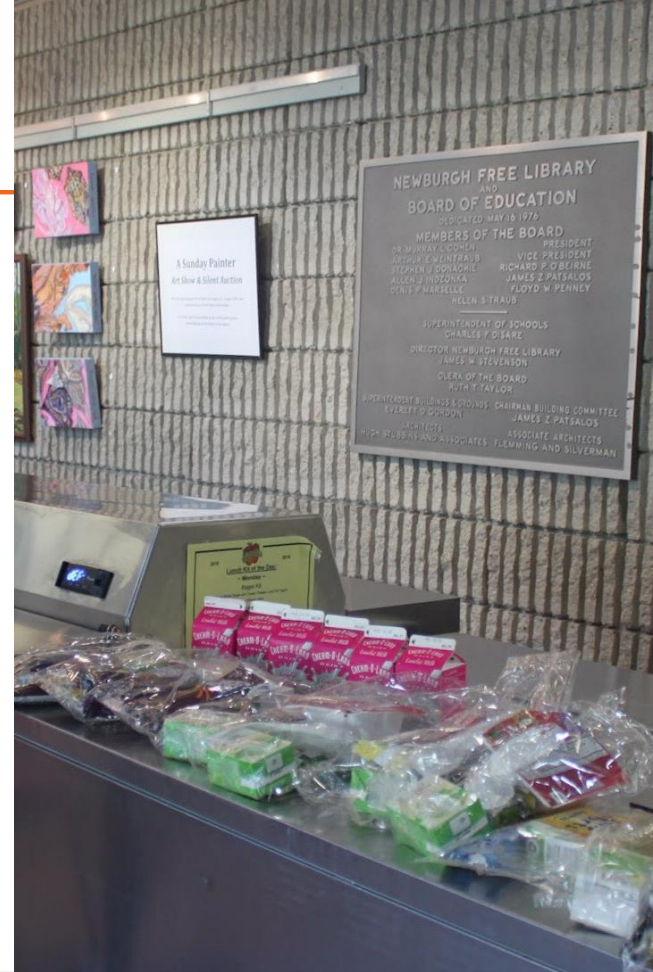
Both of those requirements were **waived in 2020 and 2021**, allowing open sites in all areas, and grab-and-go or delivered meals. Those waivers haven't been extended for 2022 **yet**.



# Summer Meals

## General requirements for sites:

- **Serve meals** provided by the sponsor to children ages 18 and under
- Maintain **safe and sanitary conditions**
- Attend the sponsor's **training** session, ensure all site staff attend a training session, and have an adequate number of trained staff present during meal service
- Other requirements outlined in each sponsor agreement (e.g., **tracking meal counts**).
- In typical years (waived for 2020 and 2021):
  - Ensure children **eat all meals on site**
  - For open sites, be located in an **eligible low-income area**





Use **USDA's Capacity Builder map** to identify eligible, unserved areas & potential new sites.

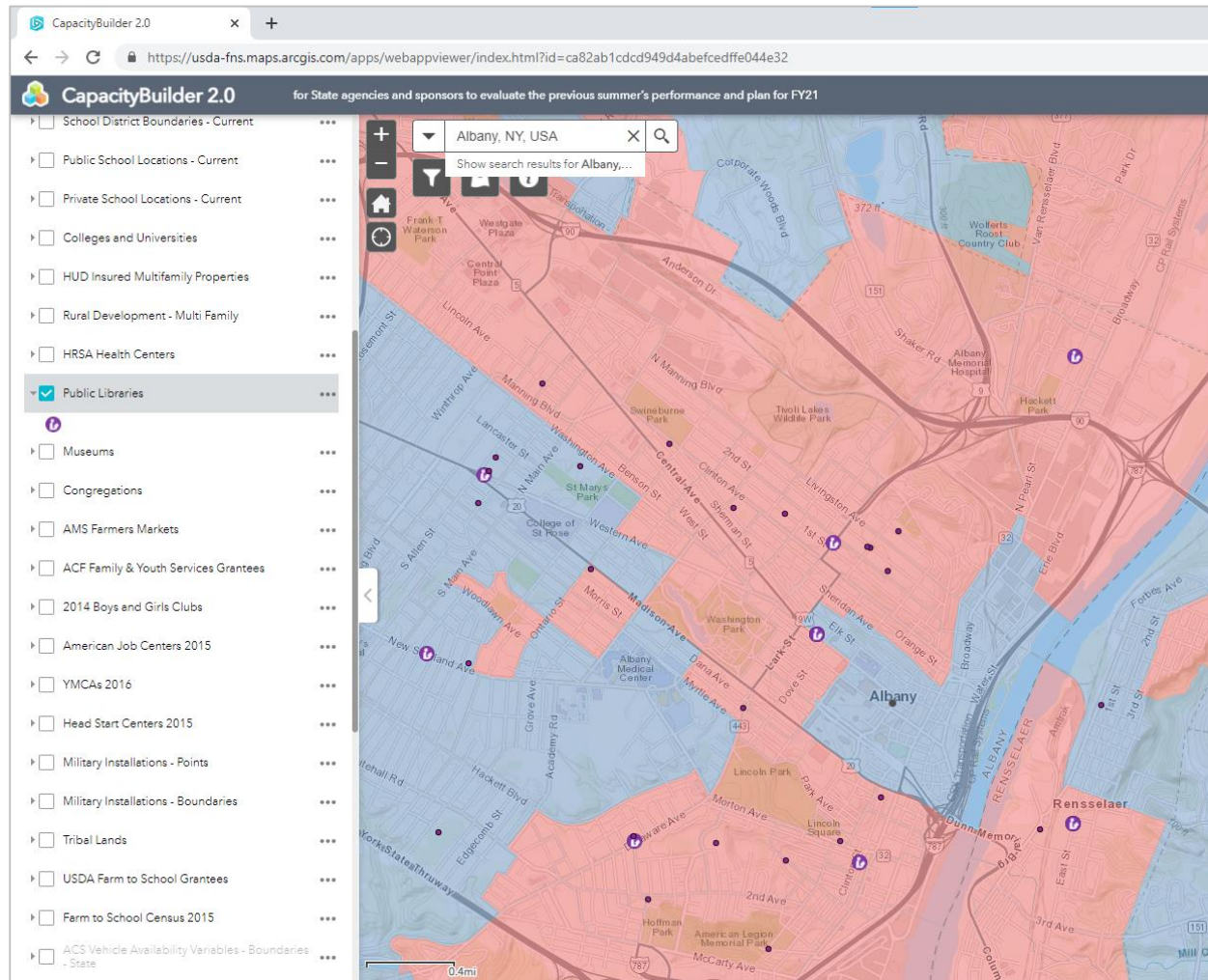
Pink = eligible areas\*  
(waived last year)

To see this, check the box labeled  
"FY2022\_CACFP\_SFSP\_Eligibility"

● = Last year's sites

📖 = Public Libraries

\*Note: Sites can also qualify if the school serving their location has 50% or more F/RP-eligible students. Not sure if your school meets this criteria? [Reach out](#); we can help.



# Outreach Resources:

**Help spread the word** about nearby sites:

- Post on social media
- Add information to your website
- Hand out flyers with book pick-ups
- Share information during programming

**New:** [outreach resources page](https://www.SummerMealsNY.org) on [SummerMealsNY.org](https://www.SummerMealsNY.org)

**Coming soon:** updated resources with new texting hotline (304-304)



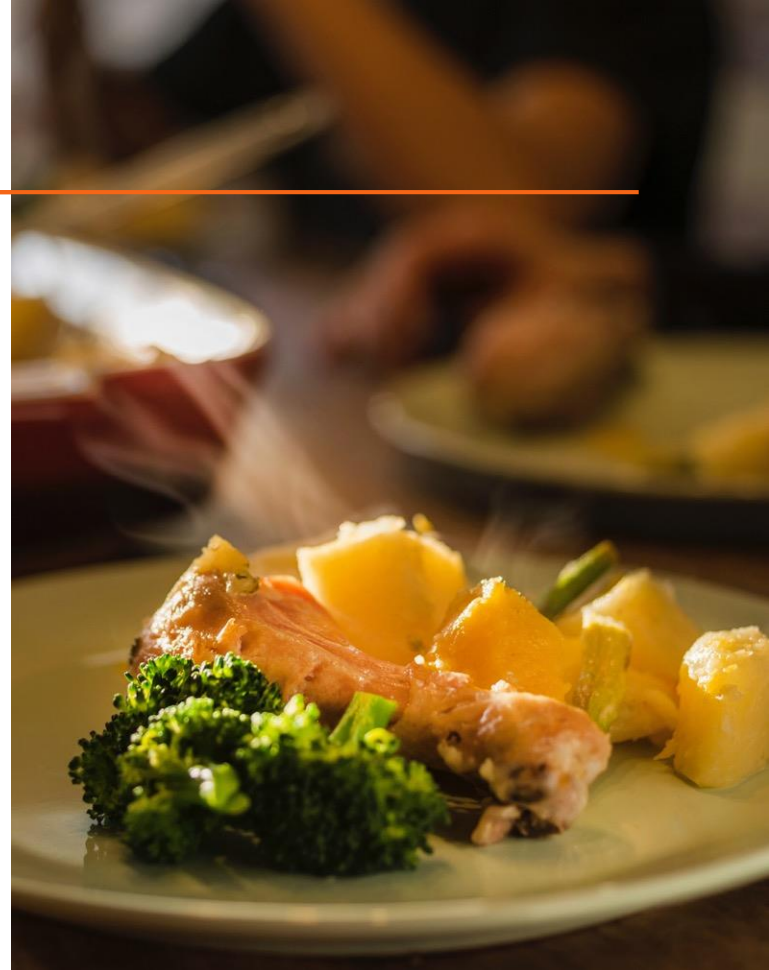
# SNAP

## Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program:

- Our nation's primary anti-hunger program, providing monthly benefits to purchase food for all who meet program guidelines.
- For every **1 meal** a Feeding America food bank provides, SNAP provides **9 meals**.<sup>1</sup>
- Every **\$1** in SNAP benefits generates **\$1.50** in economic growth.<sup>2</sup>
- SNAP participation automatically qualifies children for **free school meals**.

<sup>1</sup>Feeding America. (2019). *Feeding America Statement on USDA Proposal to Restrict SNAP Eligibility*.

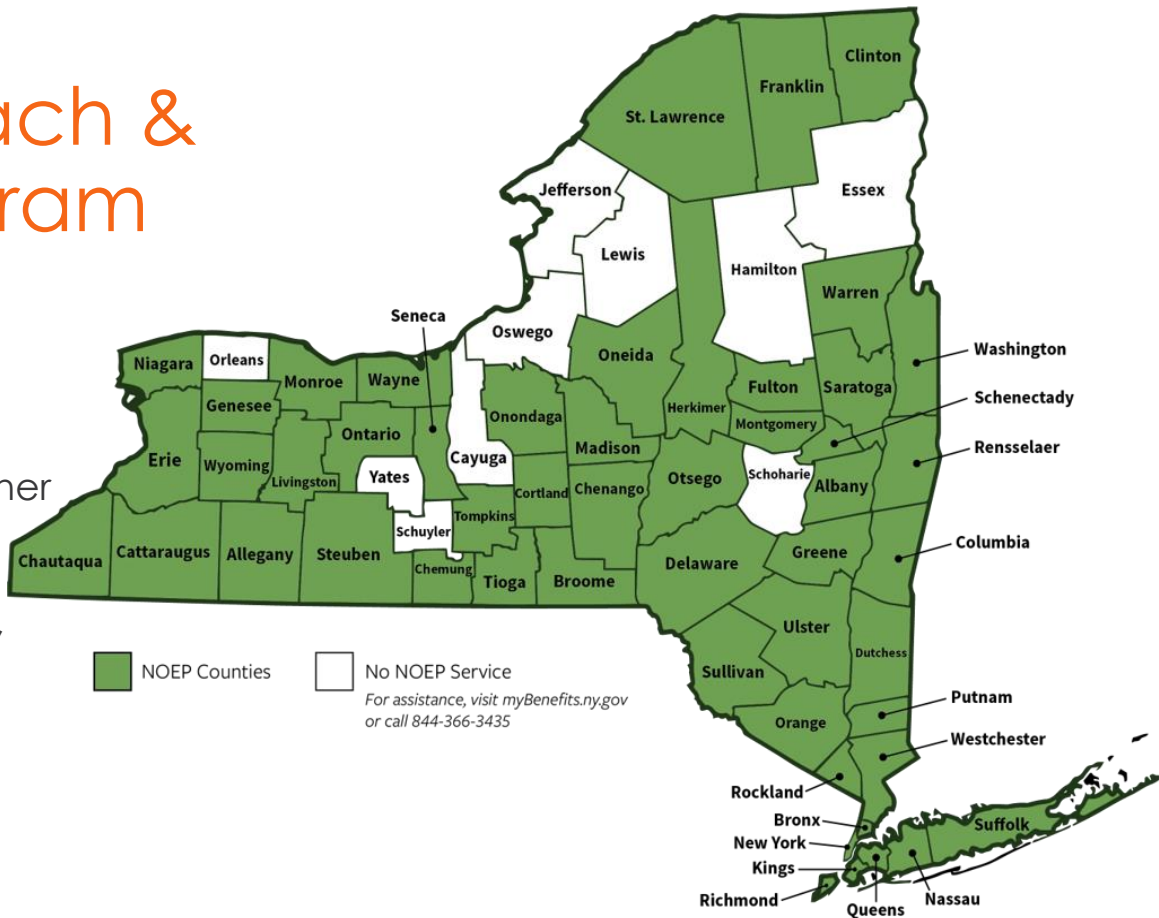
<sup>2</sup>Canning, P. & Morrison, R. (2019). *Quantifying the Impact of SNAP Benefits on the U.S. Economy and Jobs*, USDA ERS.



# Nutrition Outreach & Education Program

The Nutrition Outreach and Education Program (NOEP) offers free and confidential services to connect New Yorkers with SNAP. NOEP also provides referrals to other nutrition assistance programs.

To find a local NOEP Coordinator,  
visit [FoodHelpNY.org](https://FoodHelpNY.org)





# Resources:

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[FoodHelpNY.org](https://FoodHelpNY.org)

- **Connect** with your local **NOEP Coordinator** for SNAP outreach.

[SNAPandSeniorsNY.org](https://SNAPandSeniorsNY.org)

- **Join** the **SNAP & Seniors Professional Network** for updates and resources to connect older adults with SNAP.



# WIC

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WIC provides pregnant women, new and breastfeeding moms, and children under 5 with:

- **Breastfeeding support**
- **Nutrition counseling**
- **Referrals to health care and other services**
- **Nutritious foods**

During COVID-19:

- **Remote services**
- **Boosted fruit/vegetable cash value benefits**

Plus: **eWIC**, **WIC2GO** & **NEW 24/7 virtual assistant (Wanda)** make it easier than ever to enroll and shop with WIC

Still, WIC is reaching **~50%** of eligible New Yorkers.



# Resources:

- Help **spread the word** about WIC, especially among:
  - Pregnant women
  - Parents/caregivers of 3-4 year-olds
  - Non-maternal caregivers
- Visit **WICHelpNY.org** for additional resources & links to local WIC agencies

**NEW:** Use the **toolkit** to easily spread the word about WIC's remote services & boosted benefits!



**Get WIC benefits from home!**

**More fruits & veggies thru March!**



**With WIC**

**\$24-\$47 per month each for moms and kids!**

# Pandemic-EBT (P-EBT)

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P-EBT provides food benefits to children who:

- **Qualify for free or reduced-price school meals** through the National School Lunch Program AND had **reduced in-person school attendance** due to COVID-19.
- OR are **under age 6** AND **received SNAP** after October 1, 2020.

There is no application for P-EBT; benefits will be issued automatically.





# Resources:

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Families may have questions about their P-EBT benefits, or need a new P-EBT card.

Direct families with questions to:

- Hunger Solutions New York's [P-EBT webpage](#)
- [NYS P-EBT FAQ](#)



# School Meals

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Most schools have offered **free meals for all kids** for the last two school years using COVID-19 waivers. Without Congressional action, those waivers will **expire after June 30, 2022**.

Looking ahead to the 22-23 SY:

- Some schools may be able to continue offering free meals to all through the **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)**.
- Schools will need to communicate with families about the importance of completing **F/RP school meal applications**.



# Resources:

Improve viability for CEP by **increasing SNAP participation & capturing more free/reduced-price eligible students:**

- [SNAP Outreach for Schools Toolkit](#)
- **NEW:** [Direct Certification Tip Sheet](#)
- **Coming soon:** Toolkit to help schools encourage families to complete school meal applications.

Hunger Solutions New York works one-on-one with school districts to help maximize school meal programs. For assistance, email [Jessica.PinoGoodspeed@HungerSolutionsNY.org](mailto:Jessica.PinoGoodspeed@HungerSolutionsNY.org)



**Apply for SNAP  
at [myBenefits.NY.gov](https://myBenefits.NY.gov)**

# CACFP

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The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) funds healthy meals and snacks served to kids in eligible **child care centers, home-based day care, and afterschool programs.**

**<50% of child care providers in NY** currently participate.

Fewer than **1 in 7** of NY's low-income students have access to afterschool meals.





# Resources:

- If your library offers afterschool programming, and you may be interested in CACFP, [contact us](#) to learn more.
- As schools expand their afterschool programming for the 22-23SY, make sure suppers/snacks are included. Share our [FAQ for afterschool programs](#).
- Encourage more child care providers to join; visit [ChildCareMealsNY.org](#) for outreach resources.



# Recap & Quick Links

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## Help grow summer meals:

- Become a meal site! To start, reach out to a local sponsor using our [directory](#).
- Partner with local sponsors to bring summer reading activities to meal sites.
- Help with outreach using summer meals [outreach resources](#) (coming soon: updated versions with the new 304-304 texting hotline).

## Connect families with other programs:

- Use [WIC outreach resources](#) to spread the word about boosted benefits, remote services, and more.
- Connect with your [local NOEP Coordinator](#) for SNAP outreach.
- Join our [SNAP & Seniors Professional Network](#).
- Share info & resources with [schools](#), CBOs, and [child care/afterschool](#) providers to increase meal access throughout your community.

Stay updated: [HungerSolutionsNY.org/Subscribe](https://HungerSolutionsNY.org/Subscribe)

# Conclusion

- Thank you for participating today! Questions?
- A brief survey will be emailed to you shortly – please take a few minutes to respond. We truly appreciate your feedback which helps with evaluation and with planning future sessions.
- Contact information:
  - Krista Hesdorfer: [Krista.Hesdorfer@HungerSolutionsNY.org](mailto:Krista.Hesdorfer@HungerSolutionsNY.org)
  - Sharon B. Phillips: [Sharon.Phillips@nysed.gov](mailto:Sharon.Phillips@nysed.gov) or [nyslyouth@nysed.gov](mailto:nyslyouth@nysed.gov)

