



Learn more about
SUN Bucks in Kansas!



SUNBucks.dcf.ks.gov

SUN Bucks

Overview for School Staff: Your Guide to Summer Food Assistance

As a school staff member, what do I need to know about SUN Bucks?

SUN Bucks, also known as Summer EBT, is a program administered by the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF). This is a permanent federal program to help Kansas families buy food for their school-aged children during the summer. Families will get a **single lump sum payment of \$120 per year for each eligible child** to help buy groceries during the summer months.

SUN Bucks will serve students who qualify for free and reduced-price school meals or whose household income would meet the eligibility for free and reduced-price school meals. Some families will get benefits automatically without applying, while some eligible families need to apply to receive benefits.

Applications for 2026 SUN Bucks must be submitted **no later than 5 p.m. on Aug. 31, 2026**. SUN Bucks benefits will be issued to an existing household Kansas Benefits Card (also known as an EBT card) or loaded onto a Kansas Benefits Card and mailed to their home in summer 2026.

Children can participate in SUN Bucks AND Summer Food Service Programs. We encourage families to use both of these great resources!

How will families know if they need to apply for SUN Bucks?

Households with an eligible child who can be identified by DCF will receive a letter from DCF after January 2026 notifying them that their child is eligible for SUN Bucks. These households will not need to apply.

If a household did not receive a letter from DCF regarding SUN Bucks eligibility, they can apply through the DCF Self-Service Portal at dcfapp.kees.ks.gov.

Children in the custody of the DCF Secretary and enrolled in a Kansas school are eligible for SUN Bucks. Relatives, non-related kin and foster homes will need to submit a SUN Bucks application for children in their care after April 1, 2026, so the benefit can be issued to the correct address.

Additional information about SUN Bucks eligibility can be found at SUNBucks.dcf.ks.gov.



Help students access SUN Bucks 2026 benefits!

1 Let families know about SUN Bucks through your various communication channels. Families may turn to schools to learn more, including whether or not they'll need to apply. The graphics and flyers mentioned below are available for you to download at SUNBucks.dcf.ks.gov.

- ✔ Share a high-level message about SUN Bucks with your school community.
Example: SUN Bucks is a federal program administered by the Kansas Department for Children and Families to help families buy food for their eligible school-aged children during the summer months. Learn more about the SUN Bucks program and view eligibility requirements at SUNBucks.dcf.ks.gov!
- ✔ Post the 2026 SUN Bucks graphics to your social media accounts.
- ✔ Distribute the 2026 SUN Bucks general information flyer to your school families.
- ✔ Provide the 2026 SUN Bucks Family FAQ document to help families understand the program.

2 Direct families to the correct source of information. Families can find 2026 Kansas SUN Bucks information at SUNBucks.dcf.ks.gov or by calling DCF Benefits Assistance at 1-888-369-4777.

3 Share this information with staff across the school who might receive questions about SUN Bucks. This might include school secretaries, administrative assistants, food service staff, guidance counselors, family services specialists, family resource officers, community school facilitators and teachers.

Thank you for being a critical part of Kansas SUN Bucks.

We appreciate your efforts to support students and families by connecting them to resources, ensuring they are well-fed, and providing what they need to succeed in school. SUN Bucks helps meet these same goals.

For more information:

 SUNBucks.dcf.ks.gov

 1-888-369-4777



Key Points of SUN Bucks 2026

What is SUN Bucks?

- ✓ SUN Bucks is a permanent federal program to ensure students have adequate access to food over the summer months.
- ✓ SUN Bucks is a one-time benefit of \$120 per year for each eligible child to help purchase groceries during the summer months.
- ✓ Children can participate in SUN Bucks AND Summer Food Service Programs. We encourage families to use both of these great resources!

Eligibility for SUN Bucks

- ✓ Some families will get benefits automatically without applying, while some eligible families need to apply to receive benefits.
- ✓ If a household did not receive a letter from DCF regarding SUN Bucks eligibility after January 2026, they can apply through the DCF Self-Service Portal at dcfapp.kees.ks.gov. Applications for 2026 SUN Bucks must be submitted no later than 5 p.m. on Aug. 31, 2026.
- ✓ Children in the custody of the DCF Secretary and enrolled in a Kansas school are eligible for SUN Bucks. Relatives, non-related kin and foster homes will need to submit a SUN Bucks application for children in their care after April 1, 2026.

SUN Bucks Benefits

- ✓ Beginning in summer 2026, SUN Bucks benefits will be issued to an existing household Kansas Benefits Card or loaded onto a Kansas Benefits Card and mailed to their home.
- ✓ SUN Bucks benefits can be used at any store that accepts SNAP Food Assistance. This includes farmers markets, online retailers, and other places that accept SNAP EBT.
- ✓ SUN Bucks benefits will be available for 122 days from the date they were issued to the Kansas Benefits Card. Unused SUN Bucks benefits will be removed from the card after 122 days. The date of issuance is the date on the Notice of Action letter the household receives from DCF when their benefits are approved.

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