

SUMMER ELECTRONIC BENEFITS TRANSFER FOR CHILDREN (SEBTC-SNAP)



Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
(SNAP) Model

Purpose

- Review the Request For Applications
- Answer Questions

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children
SNAP Model

BACKGROUND

USDA's Commitment to Kids

- End Childhood Hunger by 2015
- Food insecurity increases during summer
- USDA's SEBTC demonstrations target summer childhood hunger

SFSP Role

- Existing Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) nourishes children
- 4 of 5 needy children lack access to subsidized meals
- SFSP will not be affected by demo projects

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children
SNAP Model

OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW

Who May Apply?

- SEBTC-SNAP demo sites
 - 1 demo design per State
- Commitment to collaborate with FNS' evaluation contractor

SEBTC-SNAP Concept

- Replaces Free and Reduced Price school meals
- EBT cards will utilize SNAP-EBT technology
- Robust evaluation provided to Congress prior to next Child Nutrition Reauthorization

2011 Proof-of-Concept Operations

- 5,000 children: 2,500 beneficiaries + 2,500 controls
- \$60/mo per child benefit level
- About \$375-450K total benefits per demo area
- Complete preparations by 2010/2011 SY end
- Benefits begin 1st day after 2010/2011 SY end
- Benefits cease 1st day of the 2011/2012 SY

Expanded Operations

- In 2012, expand successful demos:
 - Plan for \$60/mo per child benefit level
 - 10,000 children: 5,000 beneficiaries + 5,000 controls
 - \$800K- \$1M in food benefits per demo area

Expanded Operations (cont.)

- 2012 - new competitive RFA
 - expansion to new States and geographic areas
- 2013 - successful demos will operate contingent upon available funds

Award Management

- To ensure that SEBTC funds are not comingled or used inappropriately, awardees MUST :
 - Use SEBTC funds solely for allowable, allocable, necessary and reasonable costs
 - Account for SEBTC funds separately from all other funds, using a distinct audit trail and strict accounting system
 - Establish financial & management reporting and controls

Allowable Administrative Costs

Allowable uses include, but are not limited to:

- Personnel costs
- EBT programming
- Development and manufacture of EBT cards
- Training
- Translation services
- Printing, duplication, and dissemination of materials
- Technology (both hardware and software) necessary for demo operations

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children
SNAP Model

OPERATIONAL ISSUES

State Agency Coordination

- Immediate inter-agency coordination is critical
- FNS expects School Meal Program and SNAP administering agencies, and EBT functions to be involved
- One Agency must apply as the project lead and official applicant

Demonstration Area

- Must contain 10-12K children certified for F/RP school meals at the end of 2010/2011 SY
 - No Free/Reduced-Price % threshold
- Geographically, may consist of:
 - a portion of a large urban School Food Authority
 - Several rural School Food Authorities that collectively have 10-12K eligible children
- Applicant must obtain written commitment of School Food Authorities and their schools in the demo area

Household Eligibility

- Reside in Demo Area
- Enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade
- Currently certified for free/reduced price lunch
- **All** children in an eligible household who meet the above criteria are eligible for benefits

EBT Integration

Proposed EBT design must address:

- Identification of benefits as SEBTC benefits
- Branding cards to encourage use of foods for kids and minimize stigma
- Alerting households of end-of-Summer cessation of benefits
- Decision to provide SNAP families with a combined SNAP-SEBTC card or separate cards
- User training and support
- Expunging and return unused benefits to FNS

Confidentiality

- The law limits disclosure of F/RP data
- A child's F/RP status **MAY** be shared with other Federal nutrition programs (such as SNAP)
- Household contact information **MAY NOT** be shared without the consent of the child's parent or guardian
- Applications must thoroughly discuss:
 - Safeguards to protect confidentiality
 - Proposed method of obtaining confidentiality waivers

FNS' Two-Part Evaluation

- Impact Evaluation
 - Food security
 - Nutritional status
- Process Evaluation
 - Establishing, launching, and operating the SEBTC
 - Schedule
 - Roles and responsibilities of partners
 - Implementation issues

Evaluation Role

- An independent contractor will head the evaluation, but the SEBTC Awardees must:
 - Agree to cooperate fully with evaluator
 - Assign an evaluation liaison
 - Provide data on the existing summer food service environment
 - Work with the evaluator to contact, obtain confidentiality waivers from and assign eligible households to treatment and control groups
 - Provide demonstration operations data

Evaluation Role

Working with FNS evaluation contractor:

- Provide data on the existing summer food service environment
- Initially contact eligible households to obtain confidentiality waivers
- Provide data to evaluator to randomly assign households to treatment and control groups
- Facilitate access to families for data collections
- Provide operational data requested by evaluator (e.g., EBT usage data)

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children
SNAP Model

DEMONSTRATION ACTIVITIES

Programming

- Retailer System
- EBT card programming
- Relevant EBT processing code

Creating & Contacting Sample

- Work with local School Food Authorities and Schools to develop contact lists of F/RP certified students
- Group eligible students by household
- Collaboration with evaluation contractors
 - Random Assignment of Households
- Invite household participation

Training

- Train households how to use cards
- Train retailers to recognize cards and new food package
- Train local agency staff to handle questions that may arise at SNAP offices or schools

Manage Benefits

- Deliver cards to treatment households
- Load monthly benefits of \$60/mo/child onto cards at least once per month
- Provide processes for managing problems (e.g., card loss, PIN reset)
- Expunge and return unused benefits to FNS at the end of the Summer.

Reports

- Quarterly Progress Reports
- Quarterly Financial Reports
- EBT Transaction Data
- Annual Progress Reports
- Annual Financial Reports
- Final Presentation

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children
SNAP Model

AWARD

Award Schedule

- November 2010
 - 2-4 Awards
- December 2010
 - Funding available

Award Funding

- Per demo site
 - \$375-450K in food benefits in 2011
 - \$800K- \$1M in 2012-2013
- State & Local Agencies
 - Start-up and operational administrative costs, to be proposed by applicant and approved by FNS
 - Include admin costs for ALL partner agencies

Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children
SNAP Model

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Application

- Identify one State Agency to be the project lead and official applicant
- Applications due: October 29, 2010
 5:00 pm EST

Application Checklist

- Use application template (RFA Attachment B)
- Letters of Commitment from ALL partners
- Evaluation Cooperation Agreement
- Resumes of Key Personnel
- Mandatory Forms

Application Template

1. Cover Sheet
2. Table of Contents
3. Proposal Summary
4. Demonstration Design & Implementation
5. Benefit Delivery Features & Operation
6. Retailer Notification & Training
7. Participant Notification & Training
8. Training
9. Evaluation Cooperation
10. Work Plan with Implementation Schedule
11. Staffing Plan
12. Management Plan
13. Budget
14. Assurances & Disclosure Attachments
15. Appendices

Mandatory Forms

- Application for federal assistance (SF-424)
- Budget information (SF-424A)
- Assurances – Non-construction programs (SF-424B)
- Disclosure of lobbying activities (SF-LLL)
- Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters (AD-1047)
- Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion (AD-1048)
- Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements, State and State Agencies (AD-1052)

Application Submission

- Due October 29, 2010 by 5:00 pm EST
- Submit
 - Electronically on www.grants.gov
 - By hand delivery or mail to:

Lisa Johnson, Grants Officer
Grants & Fiscal Policy Division
Food and Nutrition Services, USDA
3101 Park Center Drive, Room 738
Alexandria, VA 22302
- Faxed, e-mailed, incomplete and late applications will NOT be accepted

Application Evaluation

- Incomplete applications will be eliminated
- Evaluation and Scoring by Panel
 - Demo Design and Implementation (50 pts)
 - Staffing Plan (15 pts)
 - Management Plan (15 pts)
 - Budget (20 pts)



Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer for Children
SNAP Model

QUESTIONS

THANK YOU!

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/ora/menu/DemoProjects/SummerFood/Announcement.htm>