# TO KNOW ABOUT

SUN Bucks is a new program that helps families buy food when schools are closed for the summer. SUN Bucks is similar to CalFresh and works like debit cards. Families who get SUN Bucks can still participate in <u>CalFresh</u> and <u>other summer meals programs</u>.

Most children will automatically receive SUN Bucks, but there are still many families that will need to apply. Check in with **your child's school** <u>or</u> **school district office** to submit a school meals application or Alternative Income Form to apply for SUN Bucks this summer!

### 1. HOW DOES SUN BUCKS WORK?



Each SUN Bucks card comes with

\$120

that can be used to buy food at grocery stores, farmers markets, and other stores that accept CalFresh EBT benefits. Families MUST use SUN Bucks benefits within



of benefits being loaded on the card. Any unused funds after 122 days will expire.

# 2. WHO CAN GET SUN BUCKS?

Your child will **automatically** get SUN Bucks if they:

Are between 6-18 years and get CalFresh, Medi-Cal\* or CalWORKs. Are between 0-22 years, attend a school that is part of the National School Lunch Program and/or the School Breakfast Program, have already filled out a school meal application or Alternative Income Form, and have been approved for free or reduced price school meals.

Are experiencing homelessness, living in foster care, or are part of a migrant family.

To qualify for SUN Bucks this summer, you can fill out a **school meal application** or **Alternative Income Form** at your child's school or school district office before <u>August 31, 2024</u>. If you're not sure what form to use or how to submit it, ask your child's school or school district.







# 3. WILL GETTING SUN BUCKS AFFECT MY FAMILY'S **IMMIGRATION STATUS?**

No, SUN Bucks cards are safe to use. Receiving SUN Bucks will not hurt your child's or your family's immigration status.

### 4. WHEN WILL MY SUN BUCKS CARD ARRIVE?

Stage One: For Summer 2024, starting in June, cards will be mailed by last name to children who get SUN Bucks automatically.

Month	Last name starting letter
June	A-D
July	E-L
August	M-Z

Stage Two: Children who are newly eligible by August 31, 2024 will receive their cards between September - November 2024.

Children who will not automatically get SUN Bucks can become eligible through:

- Filling out a school meal application or **Alternative Income Form**
- Enrolling in CalFresh, CalWORKs, or Medi-Cal

#### 5. WHERE CAN I GO FOR HELP WITH SUN BUCKS?

The SUN Bucks helpline can:

) 328-9677

- Answer questions about eligibility
- Activate cards
- Check when your card expires
- Set your PIN
- Make changes to your address
- Replace lost, stolen, or damaged cards

GRACE

To speak to someone about SUN Bucks, choose your preferred language, do not enter your **<u>EBT card number</u>** and wait for more options, then press "5" on your keypad to get assistance. To reach a live representative, call between Monday to Friday, 6am – 8pm.

#### 6. WILL SUN BUCKS BE AVAILABLE AFTER SUMMER 2024?

Yes! SUN Bucks is a **permanent** program and will be available every summer from now on. SUN Bucks can provide summer food benefits for over 6 million children in California this year, but many families are unaware they qualify.

### Around 1.2 MILLION CHILDREN still need to apply for SUN Bucks. Help us spread the word so kids can have the food they need this summer!

Have a question we didn't address in the FAQ? Contact the SUN Bucks helpline at (877) 328-9677.





