



## ‘Never a better time to be an umpire’, next cadet class slated for July

SPORTS, 1B

# THE DAILY JOURNAL

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KARLA BROWN-GARCIA/USA TODAY NETWORK; AND GETTY IMAGES

## NJ summer EBT program to provide \$120 for food purchases

**Mia D. Boykin**

Cherry Hill Courier-Post  
USA TODAY NETWORK – NEW JERSEY

Approximately 681,000 children across New Jersey are set to receive summer EBT benefits as summer fully begins.

This means a one-time benefit of \$120 on an EBT card. The \$120 is to expire after 122 days.

The state’s total distribution is more than \$94 million, Department of Agriculture officials said in a statement. There are 734 participating in school food authorities with students receiving benefits under the summer EBT program.

The New Jersey Department of Human Services’s Division of Family Development is to issue the eligible families new benefit cards for summer 2026. Cards were to be mailed by the end of June for families who are automatically eligible or applied earlier in the school year.

To ensure that they receive their card, officials said, it’s important that families have their most recent address updated in their school district’s system.

If the child isn’t automatically eligible, families may apply through local school districts for the program. Applications are to be accepted throughout the summer.

To find the application, visit your school’s website or parent portal.

School-aged children who are enrolled in SNAP, TANF, income-eligible Medicaid or foster care are automatically eligible for the summer EBT program, regardless of where they attend school.

Even if a child doesn’t qualify for those programs, they are automatically enrolled by meeting the income threshold for federal free and reduced-price school meals.

The 122-day count begins the day benefits were loaded onto the card, not when it was received in the mail. If the funds aren’t used over the four-month period, the funds are to be removed.

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture, in partnership with the Department of Human Services and the state Innovation Authority, came together to provide the benefits. The program also has support from the New Jersey Department of Education and

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