

## **REPORT ON SUMMER ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER FOR CHILDREN GRANT APPLICATIONS**

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MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

*Completed pursuant to Chapters 635 and 636 of the Acts of 2019*

October 20, 2023

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## REPORT REQUIREMENT

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This report is hereby submitted in response to the following reporting requirement found under Chapters 635 and 636 of the Acts of 2019:

*That, on or before October 1 of each year, the Department of Human Services shall report, in accordance with § 2-1246 [now § 2-1257] of the State Government Article, to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and the House Appropriations Committee on the status of the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for Children grant application and, if a grant has been awarded, the progress toward implementing a demonstration project.*

*Source: Chapters 635 and 636 of the Acts of 2019*

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## PROGRESS TOWARD IMPLEMENTING THE GRANT

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The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) did not advertise a grant for the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) for Children program. Therefore, there was no application available for the State of Maryland to complete.

The federal government authorized a permanent Summer EBT program under the Consolidated Appropriation Act of 2023. The Maryland Department of Human Services (DHS) is currently collaborating with the Maryland State Department of Education on the new program for implementation beginning in summer 2024. As DHS learns more about implementation details from the USDA, we look forward to providing more information.

DHS respectfully recommends that the statutory report requirement on the status of grant application be removed as the new Summer EBT program goes into effect summer 2024.