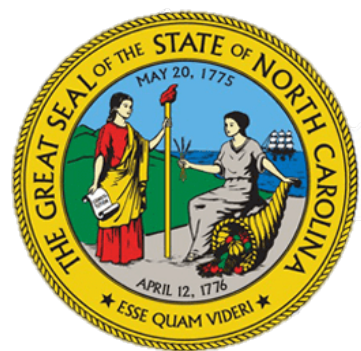


Presentation to Economic Services Committee

*September 2024
Cynthia Ervin, DCFW,
Assistant Director, FNS*



NC DEPARTMENT OF
**HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES**



SUMMARY OF ISSUANCES

This year was a success for child welfare group card distribution! 🏆

~1M

Population Served to Date

~\$120M

Benefits to be Issued

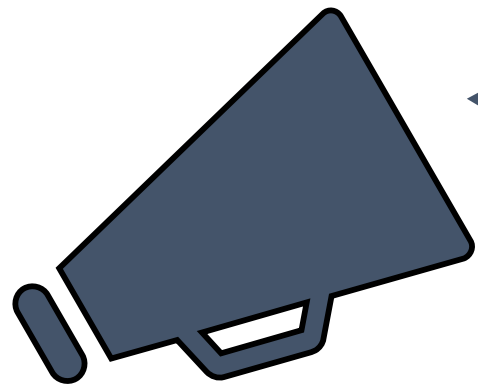
~30K

Applications Processed

Thank you for your:

- ***Time and Involvement*** in the process
- ***Dedication*** to supporting the mission of ***feeding children*** during the summer
- ***Attendance*** at webinars and ***proactiveness*** about program material
- ***Resilience*** to filling important gaps while ***promoting*** the SUN Bucks ***program mission***
- Continued ***support*** for Sun Bucks

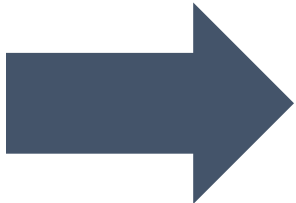
2024 SUN BUCKS FINAL ISSUANCE AND FNS CASE PROCESSING



- The **final SUN Bucks 2024 issuance** is planned for **October 4, 2024**.
- Some **FNS applications** coming in through August 31 **may still be in process** by October 4, which if approved would qualify the recipient for SUN Bucks
 - As such, the final issuance *may* be extended to account for these.

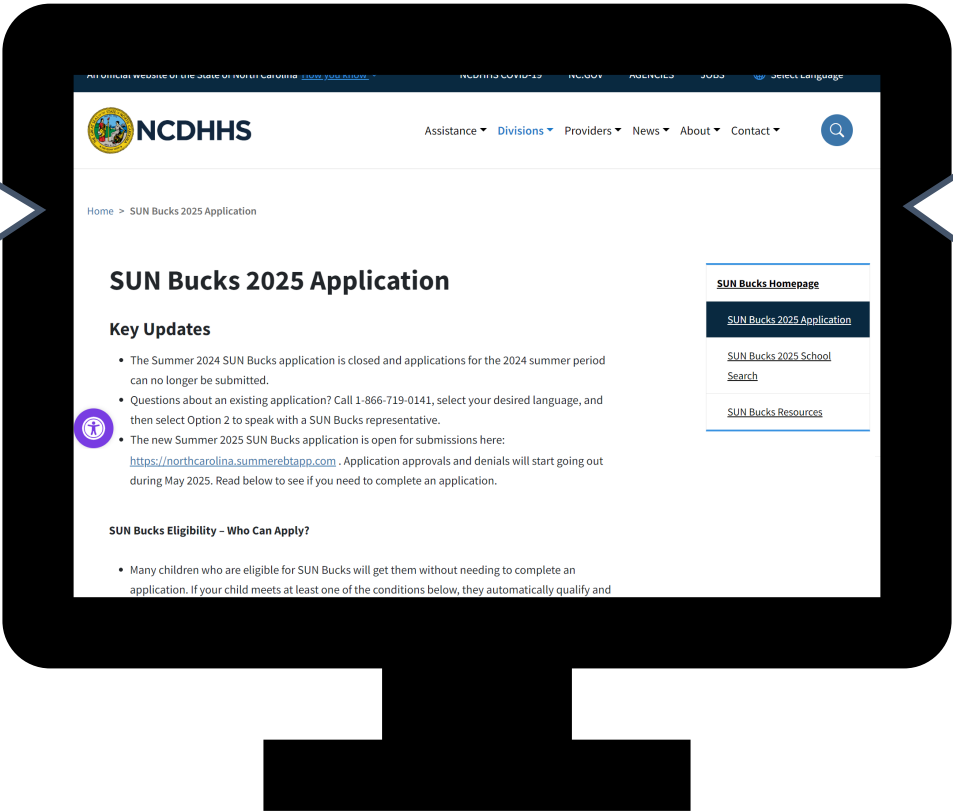
2025 SUN BUCKS APPLICATION

The 2024 SUN Bucks application closed, but...



The 2025 SUN Bucks application is available!
Find it here:
ncdhhs.gov/sunbucksapplication

Similar to 2024, most eligible children will be automatically enrolled without needing to apply. Therefore, although families can apply now, the 2025 SUN Bucks application link will start to be promoted in February and application processing will begin in Spring 2025



The link above will bring you to the NCDHHS SUN Bucks application landing page, where you can access the 2025 SUN Bucks application, FAQs, and other important information.

Applicants can also use the SUN Bucks Eligibility Quiz via the Chat Bot on the SUN Bucks website, found here:
ncdhhs.gov/sunbucks

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2023 (FRA)

On June 3, 2023, the Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2023 (FRA) was signed into law by President Biden. The FRA changes the age range for individuals subject to the Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDs) and time limit, adds new modified exceptions for certain groups of FNS participants from the ABAWD time limit, and updates the purpose of Food and Nutrition Services.

Policy Procedures: Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDS)

- Prior to September 1, 2023, individuals aged 18 to 49 are subject to the Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWD) time limit per federal rules. Going forward, the FRA gradually increases the age range of individuals subject to the ABAWD time limit as follows:
 1. Effective September 1, 2023, the age range of individuals subject to the ABAWD time limit is 18 to 50 years.
 2. Effective October 1, 2023, the age range of individuals subject to the ABAWD time limit is 18 to 52 years.
 3. **Effective October 1, 2024, the age range of individuals subject to the ABAWD time limit is 18 to 54 years.**

These changes remain in effect until October 1, 2030.

EXPEDITED INDICATOR DEFECT

***NC DHHS is aware of the expediate indicator error.
Fix project no later than October 2024***

Regulation

The timeliness code would count against the agency when the agency fails to correctly identify the application as expedited at application, when all information was available at application to make the correct determination, and the application is processed outside the processing standard of 7 days.

Federal SNAP Regulation 7 273.2(i)(3)(iv)

Late determinations: If the prescreening required in [paragraph \(i\)\(2\)](#) of this section fails to identify a household as being entitled to expedited service and the County subsequently discovers that the household is entitled to expedited service, the County shall provide expedited service to households within the processing standards described in [paragraphs \(i\)\(3\) \(i\)](#) and [\(ii\)](#) of this section, except that the processing standard shall be calculated from the date the County agency discovers the household is entitled to expedited service.

Current Defect

Flipping the expedited indicator to non-expedite after the 7th day.

The expedited indicator for Food and Nutrition Services applications will update after the evidence has been entered and managed by Caseworkers. If the application flips in error, Supervisors can override the expedited indicator and document the case file.

If the expedited determination is discovered after the 7th day from the date of application is considered timely if it was the applicant/beneficiary who caused the delay. For example, if the applicant/beneficiary reported a change, entered the wrong amount of income or expenses on the expedited screening.

Any late expedited determination discovered after the 7th day from the date of application is considered untimely if the caseworker caused the delay. For instance, if the caseworker enters the income or expenses incorrectly or processes the application after the 7th day from the date of application.

