



## **For Immediate Release**

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### **No Additional Issuances of P-EBT Approved or Announced for October, November or December Says USVI Department of Human Services**

(US VIRGIN ISLANDS) – The Virgin Islands Department of Human Services (DHS), today announced that **PEBT plan for October, November or December issuance has *not* been approved.** While discussions continue with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) to issue additional emergency Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) benefits, the approval to do so has not been granted.

**P-EBT was granted as a single issuance, *not a regular monthly benefit.*** Due to continued school closures, there is a possibility of additional issuances in the future, but no guarantee. **Please be aware however that both the DHS Head Start program and the V.I. Department of Education have announced meal distribution schedules that are now active.** Contact your respective school for details.

As part of national and federal efforts to lessen the negative impact of Covid-19 on community residents, the USDA and FNS implemented the Pandemic EBT benefit as a temporary measure to help provide food assistance to all Virgin Islands SNAP and non-SNAP households with children who attend local public and eligible private schools (grades K – 12) who had lost access to free school meals due to pandemic-related public and private school closures.

For more information, please visit the Department of Human Services website, [www.dhs.gov.vi](http://www.dhs.gov.vi) or on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/usvidhs>) at US Virgin Islands Department of Human Services. For more information on Covid19, the new strain of coronavirus, please visit the USVI Department of Health's website, [www.doh.vi.gov/coronavirus](http://www.doh.vi.gov/coronavirus) or text COVID19USVI to 888777. #COVID19USVI

*The Department of Human Services (VIDHS) exists to provide social services to members in our community with diverse needs. In times of national uncertainty and hardship we act as a safety-net and exist to inspire hope and empower change through non-judgmental, quality delivery of needed services and resources. Please visit the Department of Human Services website, [www.dhs.gov.vi](http://www.dhs.gov.vi) for more information.*

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