

What You Need to Know About Reach Ahead Pilot Program

The Reach Ahead Pilot helps families to transition from either Reach Up or Post-Secondary Education (PSE) to work.

The Reach Ahead Pilot is part of the Reach Up family of programs. The Reach Ahead Pilot program is from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025.

Mission: Reach Up joins families on their journey to overcome obstacles, explore opportunities, improve their finances and reach their goals.

Vision: Families will be empowered, connected and thriving.

When your Reach Up or PSE benefit closes, you'll automatically be enrolled in the Reach Ahead Pilot Program if you are eligible, unless you have chosen to not be auto enrolled. You won't have to fill out an application or enrollment form to start getting benefits. But you might have to complete a review at some point to keep getting them.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible for Reach Ahead Pilot:

1. You must live in Vermont;
2. Your family must include minor children;
3. At least one adult in your family that meets the work requirement through paid employment; and
4. Reach Ahead Pilot allows 24 consecutive months starting July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2025.

What help does Reach Ahead Pilot provide?

The Reach Ahead Pilot will provide the following benefits for up to 24 consecutive months:

- Support to help you keep a job. This could include, for example, help paying for car repairs, work clothes, and work supplies.
- A child care subsidy. You'll get the maximum subsidy available. This means you won't have to pay as much out of pocket.
- A food benefit of \$100 a month for the first 6 months and then \$50 a month for the remaining 18 months.

- Work support payments following this structure. The Reach Ahead Pilot is from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025.
 - \$750 work support payment after 6 months of Reach Ahead Pilot
 - \$1000 work support payment after 12 months of Reach Ahead Pilot
 - \$1000 work support payment after 18 months of Reach Ahead Pilot
 - \$1000 work support payment after 24 months of Reach Ahead Pilot

A few other things you should know:

- You can opt out of automatic enrollment if you don't want to get the Reach Ahead Pilot.
- If you're not eligible for the Reach Ahead Pilot when your Reach Up or PSE benefit closes (or you opt out), you can apply within 12 months from the date your Reach Up or PSE closed.
- If you want the child care subsidy and/or support to help you keep working, you'll need to talk to your case manager or career coach to make arrangements.
- You'll get your Reach Ahead Pilot food benefit on an EBT card. It can only be spent on food items allowed by 3SquaresVT.
- You'll get your Reach Ahead Pilot work support payment as cash on an EBT card or through direct deposit, if set up.
- If you have any questions, talk to your case manager/career coach or call 1-800-479-6151.