

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES

## A New Opportunity: Texas Education Savings Accounts (ESA)



### What Is an Education Savings Account (ESA)?

The Texas Education Savings Account (ESA) program allows eligible families to **access \$1 Billion dollars of public funds for private education-related expenses**. Families can use ESAs for **tuition, fees, instructional materials, tutoring, therapies, transportation, and technology**.

### When Does the Program Start?

The program begins in the **2026–2027 school year**.

### Is My Child Eligible for an ESA?

**Yes**, every child in Texas who is a U.S. citizen or legal resident and can attend a Texas public school is eligible to apply! Enrollment will be limited to the \$1 Billion in state program funds.

### What If Applications Go Over the \$1 Billion Available?

**Priority will go to: 1) Siblings, 2) Students with disabilities from low- and middle-income families, 3) Students from low-income families, 4) Students from middle-income families, 5) Then everyone else.**

### How Much Can My Child Receive Each Year?

**1) Approximately \$10,000 per student** enrolled in an accredited private school, **2) Up to \$30,000** for students with disabilities, **3) \$2,000 for students** not in an accredited private school to use on qualifying expenses.

### Which Schools, Programs and Services Can I Use ESA Money for?

**Your ESA funds can be used for: 1) Private school tuition and fees** at participating schools that meet program standards, **2) Online education programs, 3) Industry credential programs, 4) Private tutors and educational therapists, 5) Instructional materials and technology, 6) Transportation costs.**

### How and When Can I Apply? When Will I Find Out if My Child Is Accepted?

You can **sign up on the Best Place for Students™ website** – we'll notify you as soon as the application becomes available (likely January 2026)! **(Sign me up for notifications!)** Once accepted, you will receive electronic access to manage your child's ESA account. **It's that easy – and there is no fee to apply!**

### If I Use an ESA, Does My Child Have to Take the STAAR Test?

**No, students are NOT required to take the STAAR test.** Private schools are already required to give their students a nationally norm-referenced test each year in reading and math.

### If I Stay at My Public School will I Still be Eligible for the ESA?

**No**, you will only be eligible if you are not attending a traditional public school or public charter school.

### What grades are included?

**Pre-K through 12th grade** students are eligible.

