

INFORMATION FOR EDUCATION PROVIDERS

A New Opportunity: Texas Education Savings Accounts (ESA)



What Is an Education Savings Account (ESA)?

The \$1 Billion Dollar Texas Education Savings Account (ESA) program allows **approved providers (private schools, educational services, therapists, etc.)** to receive payments from eligible families ranging from \$2,000 – \$30,000 per participating student.

Can My School/Program Participate?

Any accredited Pre-K through 12th grade private school and/or accredited alternative school model (e.g., microschool, homeschool co-op, etc.) can accept ESA funds. **Non-traditional providers (such as online programs and therapists)** must meet state-defined quality benchmarks.

How Much Can I Receive in Payments per Student Each Year?

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

How Often are Payments Made?

Payments will be made as follows: 25% no later than July 1st, **50%** no later than October 1st, **Remaining amount** no later than April 1st.

Do I Need to Be Accredited to Participate in the ESA Program?

Yes, schools must be accredited and operating for 2 years. Non-school providers like **therapists and tutors must be certified** in accordance with state standards. (Details to be released later this year).

How and When Can I Apply?

You can **sign up on the Best Place for Students™ website** – we'll notify you as soon as the education provider application becomes available! **(Sign me up for notifications!)** It's that easy – and there is no fee to apply!

Do I Have to Administer the STAAR Test?

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

What Are My Reporting Requirements?

Each year, providers are required to:

- **Private Schools must submit grades 3–12 testing data for participating students.**
- **Providers and schools must conduct background checks.**
- **Provide compliance information** for financial transactions.
- **Maintain student confidentiality** and cooperate with audits.

