Required Documentation for the Disabilities Grant and Education Savings Account (ESA) Programs

For first time applicants, parents must submit a current DEC3 Eligibility Determination (DEC3) form from the student’s active Individualized Education Program (IEP). The forms must be from a North Carolina public school or a North Carolina Local Education Agency (LEA).

A first time applicant is a student for whom:
1. A program application has never been submitted, or
2. A program application was submitted but the student was not awarded, or
3. A program application was submitted, the student was awarded, but the student did not participate in the program. Therefore, funds were not expended on behalf of the student during school year prior to the semester for which the application is being submitted.

For renewing applicants, parents may submit a current DEC3 form from the student’s active IEP. The forms must be from a North Carolina public school or a North Carolina LEA. Parents may also submit a Documentation of Continuing Eligibility form from a North Carolina Licensed Psychologist with a school psychology focus or a North Carolina Licensed Psychiatrist.

A renewing applicant is a student for whom a program application was submitted, the student was awarded, and funds were expended on behalf of the student during the school year prior to the semester for which the application is being submitted.

The Disabilities Grant and ESA programs are not interchangeable therefore, actions, participation, etc. for one program may not solely substitute the actions, participation, etc. for the other.

What does the DEC3 form look like?
The DEC3 form starts with “Eligibility Determination” displayed across the top of the page and ends with a list of the IEP team names.

Note: A 504 Plan is not the same as an IEP.
**What is the date requirement of the DEC3 form?**
The date of the DEC3 form must be within the last three years. See the table below for examples of when a DEC3 form must be dated for a particular academic year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award for Academic Year</th>
<th>DEC3 Meeting Date must be:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018-19</td>
<td>1/1/15 or later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20</td>
<td>1/1/16 or later</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-21</td>
<td>1/1/17 or later</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Additional Documentation for ESA Applicants**
For first time applicants, in addition to the student’s DEC3 form, parents must also provide the student’s DEC3 Eligibility Worksheets, which lists the student’s disability.

**What do the DEC3 Worksheets look like?**
The DEC3 Worksheets start with “Summary of Evaluation/Eligibility Worksheet” displayed across the top of the page; the student’s disability will display to the right of the page's title.

**How do I track down the right documents?**
The DEC3 form starts initial or re-evaluation IEPs. The DEC3 Worksheets are included with the DEC3 form. If you are unable to locate the document, contact the public school or LEA to request a copy of the active IEP and DEC3 form and worksheets.

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**Disabilities Grant**
**Phone:** 1-855-330-3955  
**Email:** DGrants@ncseaa.edu  
**Fax:** 919-248-4687  
**Website:** [http://www.ncseaa.edu/CDSG.htm](http://www.ncseaa.edu/CDSG.htm)

**Education Savings Account**
**Phone:** 1-855-330-3955  
**Email:** ESA@ncseaa.edu  
**Fax:** 919-248-4687  
**Website:** [http://www.ncseaa.edu/ESA.htm](http://www.ncseaa.edu/ESA.htm)