Disabilities Grant Program

Information for Parents and School Administrators
What is the Disabilities Grant Program?
Disabilities Grant Program

Expands school choice for eligible students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

- For tuition and required fees at a participating nonpublic school, and certain other expenses related to educating a child with a disability

- Awards up to $4,000 per student per semester.
NCSEAA administers the program

— Manages the application and award process.
— Ensures the school meets program requirements.
— Verifies each student’s eligibility.
— Disburses Disabilities Grant funds.
Which nonpublic schools participate in the program?
Disabilities Grant Program

The Disabilities Grant Program was created by the NC Department of Public Instruction to provide financial assistance to children with disabilities who attend school in an eligible school and change to an eligible school. The Disabilities Grant Program is for children with disabilities who attend school in an eligible school.

Children who are placed in a nonpublic school by their educational service provider are eligible for the Disabilities Grant Program. The Disabilities Grant Program application for 2016-17 has closed, and all funds have been used to award students based on need. The application for 2017-18 will open on May 1, 2017.

Program Overview

Frequently Asked Questions

Current List of Nonpublic Schools

Program Rules
Disabilities Grant Portal
Initial Determination of a Disability
Disabilities Grant Data
Disabilities Grant Statutes
Can public schools participate?
Public schools where tuition is required

— Tuition may be required if a student attends an out-of-district public school.

— Disabilities Grant can reimburse a family for this tuition.

— Disabilities Grant cannot reimburse other expenses besides tuition to this same family.
What types of expenses does the Disabilities Grant cover?
Categories of expenses

1. Tuition

   A. Direct disbursement to nonpublic schools on behalf of students
      
      *Schools are registered with North Carolina’s Division of Nonpublic Education (DNPE) and with SEAA*

   B. Reimbursement to parents on behalf of students
      
      *Schools are registered with DNPE but not SEAA*
Categories of expenses

Families may also be reimbursed for the following expenses:

2. Special Education instruction from a qualified provider which is designed to meet the needs of the student; and Special Education curriculum or testing materials.

3. Related Services such as speech therapy or physical therapy from a qualified provider.

4. Educational Technology used primarily for educational purposes for a child with a disability.
How do I know if my student is eligible to apply for a Disabilities Grant?
Eligibility

An eligible student meets all these requirements.

☑ is 5 years old on or before August 31.
☑ has not graduated from high school.
☑ is a resident of North Carolina.
☑ Is a child with a disability who requires special education, as documented by the public school IEP (Individualized Education Program).
An eligible student meets **at least 1** of these requirements.

- received a Disabilities Grant last year (Priority 1)
- was a full-time student attending a NC public school or a Department of Defense school in North Carolina last spring semester (at least 75 school days of the second semester) (Priority 2)
- has a parent on full-time active military duty (Priority 2)
- is entering kindergarten or 1st grade (Priority 2)
- has lived in North Carolina at least six months (Priority 3)
I want to apply.
Where do I find the application?
New Student Application:

www.NCSEAA.edu

Renewal:

— Via the Disabilities Grant Student Portal.

— Each renewing student needs a separate renewal.
When do I submit my completed application?
Application period begins

Go to ncseaa.edu for application!
What specific document do I need from the IEP process?
IEP (Individualized Education Program)

• Issued by the public school system.

• Specific document = DEC3 Eligibility Determination.

• Initial eligibility requires a current public school IEP.

• Re-evaluation every three years by the public school system or by a licensed psychologist with a school psychology focus or by a licensed psychiatrist.
How do I know if my application was received by SEAA?
You’ve got mail!

Information about next steps and the Disabilities Grant Portal.
When will I find out if I’m going to get the Disabilities Grant?
Award notification starts in ...

JUNE or JULY

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How is the school paid?
NCSEAA may send grant funds directly to the school for tuition

You must sign an endorsement form at your chosen school before any funds can be sent.
How are the families paid?
NCSEAA may reimburse the parent for certain qualified expenses

* You must submit a W9 and an Electronic Funds Transfer form before payment is issued.
Additional Information

- [www.ncseaa.edu](http://www.ncseaa.edu)
- DGrants@ncseaa.edu
- 1-855-330-3955 (toll-free)