

0:07

Good afternoon, everyone. This is Tiffany Jatta with the State Education Assistance Authority.

0:13

Glad you did take a few moments out of your lunchtime for what it is for many of us today, to learn more about the new ESA Plus Program.

0:23

And I see people are continuing to join, so we're going to give everyone a few moments to join the call and then we will get started.

1:35

OK, so we're going to go ahead and get started, I see folks are still joining the call, which is fine. So, again, welcome. My name is Tiffany Jatta, I'm the K12 Program Manager for the disability programs with the State Education Assistance Authority. Got on the line with me today.

1:53

Michele Fountain, one of our K 12 Program coordinators, and our Program Director, Kathryn Marker.

2:01

We expect to have a large group. Like I said, I still see folks joining the line.

2:07

And we are a small staff with you today, so unfortunately, we won't be able to answer your questions live during the call.

2:15

But feel free to put your questions in the chat box.

2:20

And in a couple of weeks, we will have an FAQ available with all the questions with the answers.

2:28

I want to point you to some handouts that we have today, There's a copy of the presentation slides.

2:35

There's also a PDF of the presentation.

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As well as a document with the overview of the program and the program eligibility requirements.

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So I hope everybody can hear me. Still see folks joining, which is great.

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If you're unable to hear, let us know in the chat, We can get you the dial in number so you can call in if need be.

3:18

And we will go ahead and get started with the presentation.

3:23

So, as many of you know, the General Assembly released the budget in the fall, actually in November 28, 2021 on November 18th, and the governor signed it into law.

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Now, in the budget, there was direction and funding for this new ESA plus program to help families with disabilities who choose to enroll their students in a non public school, which is a private, or a home-school.

3:54

And this new program will be consolidating the two programs, which we previously had that served families with students with disabilities.

4:03

So, in this presentation today, want to talk about a new student application process, and we'll give you an overview of how the program will work.

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The ESA plus application will open on March first.

4:22

And the priority deadline will be April first.

4:28

Now we hope you all will be able to apply in March, but there won't be any additional advantage to receiving your application earlier in March, as opposed to the end of March.

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In 2023, we do expect a new student application to open on February first, as we have with our current opportunity scholarship.

5:00

So let's get to why you all are here.

5:04

This is our agenda today for our topics that we'll be discussing.

5:08

We'll have an overview of the ESA plus new student application.

5:13

We'll talk about documentation of disability, eligibility and timelines.

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And to go into a little bit more detail as to how the program will work, we'll talk about the award amounts part-time enrollment.

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The account limits, how are you going to be paying a school?

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How you'll pay providers, and how you will be able to make purchases.

5:40

And Kathryn is going to give you a little presentation on the overview of the program. Kathryn.

5:49

Thank you, Tiffany. Hi, everyone. I'm glad to be here with you. I'm Kathryn Marker.

5:54

Quick overview, just to give you a snapshot of the ESA plus program. They provide scholarships to cover expenses related to educating a child with a disability in a non public school, and the word non public to us means private, or home-school.

6:11

The scholarship can pay tuition and fees on the behalf of the student at participating schools.

6:19

There aren't out of pocket expenses for parents of students at a school, or parents of a student, And home-school purchases can be made from an electronic account that are really timely for parents.

6:33

The funds can be used, so in addition to tuition and fees, in other words, other qualified expenses might be on therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, educational therapies, in other words, to help students benefit from education, tutoring services.

6:50

For home-school families, the funds can cover curriculum for, for all families that could cover educational technology for the student. So there's a lot of information about what constitutes educational technology or how this all works.

7:05

So, we hope you'll be patient, And we have a little bit of information for you today, hopefully enough for you to have an understanding of the program.

7:13

But rest assured that students who receive awards, you will have plenty of training this spring and summer to help families manage the program and the details of the program.

7:27

Let's first talk about documentation of a disability, so this is to establish the eligibility for the program.

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So, the documentation of a disability is a specific document, It's an eligibility determination from an IEP, which is issued by a North Carolina Public School. That is, the document that has to be submitted to document disability.

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Just to be clear, that's not a 504 plan.

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That would not be a document that would be acceptable to document a student's disability. And it needs to be from North Carolina. It can't be from out of state.

8:00

It can't be from a private school. And the program doesn't accept a medical diagnosis or a private educational evaluation, So, there's a little bit of information here about the particular documents

you might be looking for. IEP processes can be long and complicated so we understand you might have a lot of documents. So, we're looking for the eligibility determination.

8:22

So, a little bit of a screenshot there. We also have some information online about this.

8:27

And in the next couple of minutes, I'm sure, Tiffany or Michele, you can put the link to that page in the chat so that people know right where to go about documentation of a disability.

8:41

So, we know that families might have lots of questions about the process, timelines, where to go, who to call. We are fortunate in North Carolina to have an organization that assists families with these questions.

8:55

So, I've got on the screen here the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center, and their phone number and e-mail contact.

9:03

So they're an organization that can answer some of the questions about the IEP process.

9:09

Our team at the State Education Assistance Authority can answer all of your questions about the program, about the eligibility, about the application process. And we have some in house knowledge about the IEP process.

9:24

But we're happy to refer you to some experts who work often with the public schools, understand the timelines. And so if you have questions about that, I'm glad to share their contact information. So they're a great resource for you.

9:44

In terms of other eligibility, other than documenting a disability.

9:48

These are some other things that you might consider, This is a program for kindergarten through 12th grade students. So it does not serve preschool students or students who are too young for kindergarten, and it doesn't help students who are ready for post-secondary, so this is a kindergarten through 12th grade program for students with disabilities.

10:11

It's for North Carolinians. And it's, again, kindergarten through 12th grade. So, students who have not graduated from high school, students who have not enrolled in a post-secondary institution and are eligible to attend public school in North Carolina.

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It's worth mentioning here to be clear that this is not a program to help students who plan to remain in public school. So this is not a scholarship program that could help a student who needs additional therapy or tutoring in addition to full-time public school.

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The ESA plus program is for students who are going to move, or who are going to be enrolled in a private, or a home-school.

10:54

So that's a misunderstanding that we often see in that, there are families, we understand who are looking for assistance, and they don't plan to remove their children from the public school, but this program would not suit in that situation.

11:13

OK, little bit of information about the application itself.

11:19

The New Student Application will open on March first, and you heard Tiffany say earlier, that, in future years, we expect to open the application a little earlier.

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You may know that the legislature, or you may have heard Tiffany say the timeline of the legislation that passed was quite late.

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So the preparation for this year is compressed, so there's just not as much time to take care of business.

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So we have delayed the application to March the first to get the technology, and have the application prepared.

11:53

So if you're here today, kind of thinking for the future, you may be planning ahead for 2023.

12:00

Please note that you would want to look for the application in February in 2023, and years after that. This year, the first year of the ESA plus with our compressed timeline, the new Student Applicant applications open on March first. The priority deadline is April the first.

12:21

So we hope you'll apply in March, if you can, before the priority deadline.

12:26

But there's no advantage to submitting your application on March the first, or the second or the third.

12:30

So we want to reduce your stress on, you know, setting your alarm clock to get up bright and early on March the first. So we're happy to take your applications throughout the month.

12:41

All eligible students on applications received in March are considered equally.

12:48

The priority deadline is April first, but we do expect the application to remain open after that. So, that's not a deadline to apply.

12:55

It's simply the priority deadline for the first award group, assuming funds remain available, which we do expect that to be the case. We do expect to remain open after April first. We will continue to take applications and review them, and make awards.

13:13

The logistics of applying.

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So, we have a portal for you to use. We call it My Portal. You're going to create a Parent Account as the parent.

13:22

You are in charge of this account. Obviously, your student is not creating an account, you're creating an account as a parent.

13:29

You can do this.

13:30

Now, if you want, you can do it in February. There's no real rush. It's not hard.

13:35

So, but if you're anxious or interested, you can do that. You can add your students to your My Portal account.

13:42

Once the application is available, that's the next step.

13:46

The link to the application will be on My Portal.

13:50

And for EASA Plus, it will be available on March the first. So you would create a parent account.

13:56

Add your student to that account so that your student's account is attached yours.

14:00

You're going to manage the account on behalf of your student, and then on March the first, there'll be an application for ESA Plus.

14:07

Click on it, complete it, and you submit it.

14:10

It would take 20 minutes, or maybe a half an hour, it's not long or complicated.

14:16

It's important to note that your application is not considered until you upload the student's eligibility determination.

14:24

So, immediately after you hit Submit, there'll be a link, an item there, where you can upload a document into a specific link on your account. You aren't going to e-mail it to us.

14:34

You don't have to print it and mail it. It will all be in My Portal.

14:38

So, you're going to upload your eligibility determination.

14:41

So, something you could do in preparation for March is to make sure that you have an electronic copy of your eligibility determination.

14:49

Maybe the public school could, e-mail you, forward you an electronic copy to make that easy for you.

14:59

Or you could go ahead in the next few weeks and scan a copy.

15:02

So that you have an electronic copy of your eligibility determination saved on your computer, because that will make it easy for you.

15:12

Online, we have application information and a link to My Portal. There's the link to My Portal several places on our website.

15:21

But if you go to forms and resources, there are a couple of how tos, a little video, two minute video on how my portal looks and how it works.

15:31

There's a printed guide if you want to look at a PDF.

15:35

So those are all things you could do to sort of familiarize yourself with the process in the next month.

15:39

If you have the time to do that.

15:42

Again, it's not difficult, so I wouldn't want you to worry that somehow it requires extensive preparation.

15:49

It's user friendly, but it is available for you to look at in preparation for the application that opens March first.

15:58

So, we've mentioned a couple of times the opportunity scholarship, and we'll mention again before we end today, that's another program.

16:06

It's a different program that serve students whose families want them to go to private school. We don't want you to get them confused.

16:14

The opportunity scholarship is as a different program, and we can tell you a little bit more about it later, but its application opens February first.

16:21

So it's out there as of Tuesday.

16:24

The program you're here for is ESA plus.

16:27

It's for students with disabilities.

16:29

And that application opens on March the first.

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Eligible students on applications received by the priority deadline are entered into a lottery.

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So, as of April first, we have a pool of eligible students.

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We conduct a lottery, and in order of lottery number, make awards to those students, which we would expect to announce by early May, an announcements via e-mail. So, you would receive an e-mail notification, you would also see it in my portal.

17:10

So, My Portal will be your connection to us, to see messages, to see if you've missed an e-mail, you can seek copies of anything that was sent from the system in My Portal.

17:25

We do expect funds to remain available.

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The application is going to remain open after April first, and we'll be able to consider other eligible students.

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So, if you don't have a document from the public school, the timeline is not in our control for the IEP process. But, we do expect the application to remain open this spring.

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I'll explain a little bit why.

17:54

The legislature in North Carolina has significantly increased funding for this program.

18:00

You may have heard Tiffany mentioned at the beginning that this program replaces or consolidates two programs that existed side-by-side prior.

18:08

So they were funded separately. And there was always such a waiting list, such a demand and not enough funding.

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With this budget that has passed, North Carolina's leadership has really shown their support for the program. And so there's a lot of funding.

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So there'll be a lot of new students, which is a happy thing, to be able to say, we expect to award hundreds of new students for the next school year, which means that is why I express confidence about keeping the application open past a priority deadline.

18:45

In the past, that wasn't always the case. It was just such limited funding, that we didn't keep our applications open for those separate programs, there just wasn't enough funding for all the new students who were interested.

18:59

I want to point out, too, that in future years, the legislature has planned growth for this program.

19:05

So not only is there new funding for 2023, there's a plan for growth. The legislature has sort of stabilized and built expectations over the next years.

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So, that legislation has passed, you know, the Governor signed it into law, we're looking at not only next year, but several years into the future, that this particular program can grow.

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So, we're delighted at the prospect of serving the students that we know whose families we know are interested.

19:38

Before I leave this slide, I want to point out that the current disability grant and the current program, which was also called ESA, the two programs that are consolidating, those recipients do have priority as renewals.

19:51

So we consider them first.

19:54

I don't say that to alarm anyone, there's going to be additional funding, as I said, there's a lot of room for new students, but I did want to point out that students who are receiving funding one year have renewal priority the next year.

20:09

That'll be you, if you're awarded this year, then you are considered with priority the following year. You don't have to enter into a lottery every year.

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Once you receive the funding, then you're first in line the next year to continue your funding.

20:24

So, there's some security, some stability built in for your students, if you're awarded, that if you make this change and you're enrolling them in a situation because of the funding, you can be assured, to the extent the legislature continues to fund it, which that's what they have.

20:41

They had said they have built a plan for the program.

20:45

It's always true that any future legislature could change things, but there is stability and support for this program. And it's exciting to see.

21:04

Let's talk a little bit about the award amounts. The main award level is \$9000 per year.

21:10

Now, the award pays for the cost of tuition and fees at a participating school.

21:16

So, it will pay that up to \$9000.

21:20

If the funding is less than the cost of tuition and fees, the family could use the difference: for additional tutoring or educational therapies, or they may not use the difference. And so then the family may use \$8500 in a year.

21:38

The award is for the cost of the tuition and fees or the expenses, up to a maximum of \$9000.

21:50

So students who meet the criteria, we've already discussed, an IEP, eligibility determination, and those other criteria of being old enough, going to kindergarten through 12th grade. Those students are going to meet the main eligibility criteria.

22:06

If a student has one of these designated areas on their public school, document, then they may be eligible for an additional award, so up to \$17,000.

22:21

So you can see them listed here.

22:23

The terms on the left are listed in statute. The terms on right in the parentheses are listed on the student's public school document.

22:39

So, we're talking here about the eligibility determination, which I know there are a lot of questions in the chat about documentation of disability.

22:47

So, we'll pause for a minute and just remind everyone where some resources are about this document, and what it means.

22:56

The public school IEP process is not something that we control. Our agency is not the public school, the Department of Public Instruction.

23:12

That is, however, the only documentation of a disability, to be clear.

23:18

If you do not have, and have never been through the IEP process,

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You can expect to initiate that process now and have the documents, certainly not by March.

23:33

And that's a reality of the timing. You know, the legislation passed in late November. Normally North Carolina's budget is passed in July. And so that compressed timeline has an impact on families who might have made a decision to go seek an IEP.

23:49

So that's a reality of the timeline that we understand is there.

23:53

I want to point out, again, that there was a recommendation. If you have questions about the process, there are some resources available to you.

24:04

For example, the Exceptional Children's Assistance Center that I mentioned.

24:11

If you want their contact information, I know my colleagues have just put in the chat or a webpage that addresses documentation of a disability.

24:22

The Exceptional Children's Assistance Center information and contact info is on that page.

24:30

So, there's also information on that webpage about, if you have an IEP, and you're concerned that the areas of disability are not accurate, there's information about what to do.

24:47

So, if you're looking at these terms listed here, and you think, well, you know, I don't think my, my student's eligibility determination is accurate, and it maybe should have one of these, these areas of disability, then, on our webpage, we suggest what to do about that. And it doesn't involve going back to the public school to ask them to re-evaluate your student.

25:09

So there isn't another way to either document a disability or to update an area of disability. The only way to do that is through the public school process.

25:29

OK, let's talk a little bit more about how the program works, so you know what you're thinking about, you know, what you're getting into.

25:35

There is an option for part-time enrollment.

25:39

So, students who enroll in two private schools, if for some reason the student was enrolled halftime in one private school and halftime in another that student can receive a Full Award.

25:49

A student can be enrolled halftime in a private school and half time in home-school and receive a full award.

25:56

Student can also be enrolled halftime in a public school and half time in a private or home-school.

26:03

But that student would receive a half award funded at half the amount.

26:09

And to be clear, the amount for a student who has part-time public school is half of the lower award amount.

26:17

So even if your student had one of those areas of disability, autism, deaf blindness, they might otherwise qualify for the higher award amount.

26:29

The student who is enrolled halftime in the public school, that award is capped at \$4500, which is half of 9000.

26:41

So I'm going to pause for a second here, and speaking of schools and enrolling in schools, we expect that schools that currently choose to participate in the disability grant or the ESA program that has existed for a few years.

26:56

We expect those schools to continue to participate in the ESA plus.

27:01

So there's a list of those schools online.

27:04

If you go to our website, you can find a section called school choice, and you can get to a list of schools.

27:15

So I encourage you to do that just to get an idea.

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You can also talk to your school.

27:23

Explain that you're pursuing this program, you're interested in using your funds at their school, and they can assure you that they will be participating, or they can otherwise talk to you about that.

27:46

The two awards that I mentioned earlier have a couple of of caveats in terms of how the electronic account works.

27:57

So ESA Plus families, and we're going to talk a little bit more about this electronic account, but essentially, the money is being deposited to the account, to benefit the student, and the parent will control this account.

28:11

If a student receives a \$9000 award, the account doesn't roll the funds over from year to year. You have access to the \$9000 for an academic year, and you are able to use it. You need to use it, or you don't.

28:24

And if at the end, you used 8500, you don't get to keep the 500 and continue it the next year.

28:33

The students who received the higher amount that have those very specific areas of disability, they're receiving up to \$17,000 a year. They can roll over their funds from year to year, but there's a maximum.

28:46

So at the end, if they have \$10000 leftover or \$9000 left over, they would rollover a maximum of 4500.

28:56

And I think the intent from the legislature is to allow families to plan a little bit for perhaps the more expensive high school, for students in middle school, using less funds, perhaps the next year, is it going to be a more expensive school?

29:13

\$30,000 is the maximum that a student can ever have to their name and the ESA account.

29:19

And the money does not rollover to any post-secondary expenses.

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So if a student graduates, then that money will revert at that point, you can't roll it over to any kind of college planning or other type of account.

29:36

But, from year to year, if you have a younger student, you could accumulate some funds to perhaps leave you better prepared for more expensive educational expenses later in high school, say.

29:57

So, let's talk a little bit about how this works.

30:02

First, I will say that schools that participate in ESA Plus are going to receive a direct payment from our agency, which is SEAA.

30:10

That's us on behalf of your student. Most schools will be paid this way.

30:17

So, the schools, and there are hundreds of them, several hundred schools that participate, and they agree to the process. They tell us the costs.

30:30

And we calculate an award, and we disburse, we pay that school directly from us to them. So the parent does not transfer the money. S EAA, our agency, disperses directly to the school, and it's a very efficient and timely way to get the money to the schools on behalf of the students.

30:52

It would be by semester.

30:56

So a fall payment and a Spring Payment, half and half up to \$4500 for the fall, up to \$4500 for the Spring, for example.

31:06

There is another option for schools that choose not to participate directly in ESA plus, though there are some schools that are registered with our state's Division of nonpublic Education, DNPE.

31:18

There are some schools that are longstanding schools in our state that choose for various reasons not to engage in the ESA plus process. But students enrolled there can benefit from the funds, Those parents would seek reimbursement at the end of the semester, for the cost of the fall fees, for example.

31:43

So to be clear, how that payment works, depends on what the school decides to do. So a school decides, for example, yes, I'm going to participate in the Process B and received the disbursement directly.

31:55

Or the school says, No, you know, I have my reasons. I don't want to participate in the process.

31:59

However, I'm, you know, registered to operate in North Carolina. I'm registered with DNPE.

32:08

Those schools, a parent, can be reimbursed for the cost of tuition and fees. So it's not going to be up to the parent to choose.

32:15

It'll be up to the way the school has opted to engage.

32:20

And I would ask a school, if you have a school in mind, you've identified a school, if you're not clear. Talk to the school administrator.

32:29

And they will understand, and can work with you, just so you know what to expect if you're making your plans.

32:37

And I said this before, I would say, again, that we do expect

32:42

Schools that have previously said that they participate in our disability grant, or yesterday, programs that have existed for several years. We expect them to continue, so the list that's online now, the list of schools.

32:54

But you can go online and see right now, is an excellent indicator of the schools that would participate in EASA Plus..

33:07

But the bottom line is, if you speak to your school official, they can describe how their school chooses to engage in the ESA plus program.

33:20

So I also want to say that there are going to be a number of other trainings later this spring and summer for families, students, who receive an award.

33:29

You can certainly expect more training about how things work.

33:40

How the money flows from us to the schools, to the account, how often, and processes around that.

33:47

So I urge you to be patient about those logistics.

33:52

I'm gonna go to the next slide, we're kind of looking at a little bit of the operations of the program.

34:02

And in a minute, will be switching gears so that Michele can talk to you a little bit about how that looks at a high level.

34:14

So, I said earlier that there are qualified expenses other than tuition and fees. So, if you're a family who has a home-school for your student, you're not accessing this money for tuition, fees, or accessing it for curriculum, or perhaps tutoring or services of some sort educational therapies.

34:32

And even if your student is in a school, and you are using ESA for tuition and fees, you may be at a school where the cost is such that you have money left over.

34:46

So, either way, these types of expenses are what we call other qualified expenses, such as tuition fees, and other qualified expenses, and those would be either providers of services or things, purchases that you would make.

35:03

You're going to manage these expenses through an electronic account, so you don't have to submit receipts.

35:10

You don't have to wait to get reimbursed.

35:13

You're going to be able to pay directly with an electronic account. The platform is managed by Class Wallet, so we want to make sure that that's clear that it is a vendor.

35:26

They provide technology to facilitate the way this works. And again, the detail we can get later, concentrate on, making decisions about the program generally, and about the application process now, and then worry about the details of Class Wallet later.

35:44

We want to give you just enough information, though, so that you can kind of see what it's like. Get a sneak peek into the way the program operates.

35:55

So, to do that, I'm going to ask Michele if she'll take a couple of slides here and tell you about the Class Wallet platform, and types of expenses.

36:06

Sounds great, Kathryn. Thank you so much. So just as Kathryn had stated just a few moments ago, while SEAA, which, is us, will administer the ESA plus program on behalf of the state.

36:22

A separate company called ... Class Wallet will maintain the electronic debit account platform on behalf of the ESA plus program.

36:32

Awarded families will access the ESA plus funds from this electronic debit account for payment processing and product purchasing, with Class Wallet's easy to use and convenient platform.

36:47

Newly awarded families can expect training and more information about Class Wallet this summer.

37:02

So providers of tutoring and educational therapy services are required to register with the ESA plus program, so that families can spend their award funding for these services.

37:17

Please note that the term providers refers to therapists and tutors.

37:23

Schools and companies that are selling products are not considered providers by the ESA plus program, so they do not go through the provider registration process.

37:36

Awarded families can check this summer to see if their tutor or therapist is already registered and approved by the ESA plus program.

37:46

If a provider is not registered, a parent of an awarded student can give their provider the information on how to register.

37:58

Do note that current providers that are registered with the ESA and or the disability grant programs will transition to the new ESA plus program?

38:17

So parents of awarded students will use their ESA plus funds to make purchases directly on Class Wallet's online marketplace.

38:27

There are a variety of online stores here including Amazon, Lakeshore Learning, Staples, and Scholastic.

38:36

Additionally, families can shop from a number of companies that specialize in learning materials for special education instruction.

38:58

And that is all I have, Kathryn.

39:00

Thank you. Thank you very much. You're welcome.

39:04

Yes, turning it back over to Tiffany.

39:09

OK, thank you.

39:10

So we are nearing the end of the presentation and just wanted to remind you all that North Carolina does offer two scholarship programs.

39:20

The Opportunity Scholarship, which is for families that are eligible based on their income.

39:26

And the ESA Plus program, which will be for students with disabilities.

39:32

The Opportunity Scholarship application will be opening February first, So, next week, the same thing applies, as Kathryn mentioned earlier, with ESA Plus, applying the month of February, but there's no advantage to you applying immediately. As long as you get your application in by March first, it will be considered, and it will be considered with Priority.

40:00

Do want to remind you all that when you create your My Portal accounts and submit to your Opportunity Scholarship Applications as you're adding your students.

40:11

Just be mindful that you won't be able to apply to ESA Plus just yet, That application is going to open March first, so once it does, you'll log back into your My Portal account and select the ESA plus application, and submit it at that time.

40:36

And I think you can see it on this slide. For more information on the Opportunity Scholarship, the webpage is listed.

40:53

And as we mentioned earlier, this is a big group, so unfortunately, we won't be able to take questions on the call that you all have put in the chat, We will assemble them together and create an FAQ, and it will be posted online in a couple of weeks.

41:14

And it will be on the update page that we have as we transition to the ESA plus program, and the link is here.

41:24

And this link will also be in the copy of the PDF slides, if you are able to download them, and save them to your computer.

41:35

And just want to also mention that the main K12 page routes to the Opportunity Scholarship and to the permanent ESA plus information, And that link is here as well.

41:48

And we have our link for forms and resources about the two programs and how they work.

41:57

We do have a good call center staff.

42:02

The toll free number is listed here.

42:06

They're available Monday through Thursday, eight AM to 6 PM, Fridays, eight AM to five PM.

42:14

Any questions that you have, please call that number.

42:18

Someone will be more than happy to assist you.

42:22

And as we try and transition from the two programs to the one, eventually, we will just be using the ESA e-mail address, and that is listed here as well.

42:33

I think after, as we get more into the summer, we're going to retire the disability grant e-mail address.

42:42

I just want you to keep that in mind, as well.

42:48

So again, download the handouts, if you haven't already.

42:54

But this information is available on the website. You can call or e-mail, as well. If you're unable to access it today, we'll be more than happy to get documents to you.

43:07

And again, we'll have the FAQ available in a couple of weeks.

43:12

I'll remind everyone that if you registered for this webinar, you will receive a follow-up e-mail. It comes 24 hours later.

43:23

So, tomorrow, there'll be a follow up e-mail, and it will include a link to the recording.

43:28

So, look for that to come tomorrow.

43:30

If, for some reason, you didn't get the slides or are interested in sharing this presentation, seeing it again, you can do that tomorrow. And then second thing is, I urge your patience with our staff.

43:43

We are making a lot of changes to all the programs this year, and so we're trying to help all those families get situated for the current year.

43:52

And we're also consolidating two programs to one in a compressed timeline. We had hoped to have 6 or 8 months to do that, and instead the legislation passed at the end of November, and we had just a few months, so, thank you in advance for your grace. We do want you to call the number. We do have people waiting there, too, to help you. We also have folks on the other end of the e-mail, but there's a lot of volume right now. So I would urge your patience, especially for questions that are about the operations of the program.

44:24

We're trying to get everyone's application related questions first, so just thank you for your patience on that.

44:35

Yes, OK. Thank you, Kathryn. And, again, thank you all for coming today. And that ends our presentation.