Enrollment:
Home School? Private School? Co-Enrollment?

North Carolina’s ESA+ Scholarship Program
Helpful Hints for Zoom

*Slides* are already posted at [https://www.ncseaa.edu/esa-family-trainings/](https://www.ncseaa.edu/esa-family-trainings/) and a *recording* of this session will be posted there within a week.

- Zoom has **closed captioning** available

**Asking Questions**
- Use the Q & A to ask your questions (chat is disabled)
- Email [ESA@ncseaa.edu](mailto:ESA@ncseaa.edu) to ask questions about an individual student

**Answering Questions**
- Presentation team will answer questions from the Q & A at certain points
- Only questions related to this session’s content will be addressed live
Lots of Choices!
Enrollment Options

1. Student enrolls in a private school.
   a. School accepts a direct payment for tuition and fees (most schools do this)
   b. School does not accept a direct payment (parents are reimbursed for tuition and fees)

2. Student enrolls in a home school.

3. Additional options:
   • Co-Enrollment
   • Attending an out-of-district public school
## Paying for Tuition at a Private School

### Direct Payment Schools

- School provides cost and enrollment info to SEAA
- School, and then parent, endorse payment to the school (electronically in MyPortal)
- SEAA sends ESA+ funding to the school on behalf of the student

### ESA+ Reimbursement Schools

- Schools that are registered with the NC Division of Non-Public Education (DNPE) who do not accept a Direct Payment
- Parents of ESA+ students at these schools pay tuition up front and then submit for reimbursement from SEAA
### Direct Payment Nonpublic Schools: 2023-2024

*ESA+ parents, if your school is not listed, see information [here](#)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Nonpublic School Name</th>
<th>City</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alamance</td>
<td>Alamance Christian School Graham</td>
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<td>Blessed Sacrament Catholic School Burlington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beaufort</td>
<td>Terra Cela Christian School Pantego</td>
<td>Pantego</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Home Schools

• Parents register their home school with DNPE.

• ESA+ cannot pay for tuition on behalf of students in a home school.

• Parents who home school can use ESA+ funds for educational therapies, tutoring, curriculum, and technology. *(Please attend the related training sessions later in our summer series!)*

• A student can be co-enrolled in home school and a private school (full award) or in home school and a public school (reduced award).
  • *In either case, select your private school choice in MyPortal.*
  • *Email ESA+ to let staff know your co-enrollment plans.*
Funding for students who enroll in two schools

Students co-enrolled in ... will receive ... and will select this school in MyPortal:

- two private schools ... a regular award ... the more expensive private school
- private school and home school ... a regular award ... the private school
- private school and public school ... 50% of the award ... the private school

Students enrolled full time in a regular public school (including charter schools) may not benefit from ESA+ funds.
Co-Enrollment Resources

https://www.ncseaa.edu/k12/choosing-a-school/

How to Choose a School: ESA+

ESA+ students may choose from three different types of schools: a school that accepts direct payment, an ESA+ Reimbursement School, or a home school.

Direct Payment Schools

Direct Payment Schools are schools that receive a direct payment on behalf of Opportunity Scholarship or ESA+ recipients. To find out which schools accept direct payment, visit the list of Direct Payment Nonpublic Schools.

ESA+ Reimbursement Schools

ESA+ Reimbursement Schools are schools that choose not to receive funds directly from the K12 Programs. Families who enroll their students in these schools pay tuition and fees out of pocket and are reimbursed by ESA+.

- Your nonpublic school of choice must be registered with the North Carolina Division of Nonpublic Schools (DNPE) to use this option. To find out whether your school is registered with DNPE, visit DNPE's website or consult the school.
- ESA+ funds may be used to cover the costs required for a student to enroll in a public school other than the public school where the student is assigned to attend. Enrolling in an out-of-district school is contingent on the policies of the local public school district.
- A student enrolled in an ESA+ Reimbursement School cannot use Opportunity Scholarship funds at that school. Only Direct Payment Schools are eligible to receive funds from an Opportunity Scholarship.

Home Schools (only available to ESA+ students)

Parents of students in a home school spend their ESA+ funds for Qualified Expenses other than tuition.

Explore K12 Funding

Don’t miss the Co-Enrollment options on the ESA+ website

School Administrators

K12 Forms & Resources

Choosing a School

Co-Enrollment

Contact Information
Students at an Out-of-District Public School

• A parent may want to withdraw the student from the public school to which they are assigned, and enroll the student in another district.

• These students may use ESA+ funding to pay tuition to the out-of-district public school, as well as for therapies, tutoring, or technology, if funds remain after paying the tuition.

• Email ESA@ncseaa.edu if you have questions or want to select this option. You won’t be able to make your school selection yourself, in MyPortal.
How to Choose a School
Selecting a School

- The ESA+ Program does not enroll your student in school.
  - Parent must choose the school and apply.

- Talk to the school about your ESA+ scholarship.

- Ask questions about academic programs and services.

- Read any contract the school presents to you before you sign.
  - Would there be financial penalties if you withdraw your student before the end of the school year?
  - Are there additional costs that the scholarship can’t cover?
Notifying ESA+ ... WHEN & HOW

By August 1

Your student’s school choice in MyPortal should be correct each year by August 1. Otherwise, payment for the fall term is delayed.

Tip: Want funding to disburse on time? Make sure your school choice is correct by August 1!

By October 1

If your student is not enrolled and attending by October 1, your ESA+ award could be canceled. Make sure MyPortal shows the correct school!
Welcome to MyPortal

To Do List
- Applications and Renewals (K12 Only)
- School Choice (K12 Only)
- Eligibility and Award Information (K12 Only)
- View Billing Statement and Make Payment
- Notifications
- My Contact Information
- My Profile

Update (or confirm) school choice yourself, in MyPortal, every year before August 1.
Selecting a School: HOW

Until August 1:
1. Choose your school. How to Choose a School: ESA+
2. Go to the “School Choice” section on MyPortal.
3. Select the school or update your previous choice.

From August 1 until October 1:
Email the ESA+ Program. Include
• Full name of your student(s)
• Name of new school
• City of new school
• Enrollment date

Avoid delayed payments!
Avoid forfeiting funding or losing the ESA+ award!
Can’t Find a School?

Did you know that you could delay using your ESA+ scholarship until the spring semester?

Helpful Info:

• You’ll forfeit the funding from fall semester.
• If your student has Roll Over funds in your Wallet account, you will not keep those funds.
• **Important:** You can’t hold on to your ESA+ scholarship *until the next school year*. You can re-apply as a new student though.
• Let ESA+ know via email what your plans are before October 1.

**Tip:** If you decide you won’t need the award, decline it as soon as you decide. The funds could go to someone on the waitlist!
Transfers
Will Scholarship Money Transfer During a Semester?

• Award funds from ESA+ can be sent to a maximum of **two** schools per semester.

• The amount of funds that can be paid to a 2nd school in a semester depends on how long the student attended the 1st school.

• After 7 weeks of attendance the 1st school may be entitled to keep 100% of that semester’s funding.

To change a student’s school, the parent must email **ESA@ncseaa.edu**. Send from your email address on file in MyPortal, and include:

- Full name of student(s)
- Name of New School
- City of New School
- Last Date of Attendance at the 1st school
- First Date of Attendance at the 2nd school

**Tip:** Transferring *between* semesters rather than during a semester will be to your financial advantage.
Resources


(a link under *K12 Forms & Resources*)

Basically, a school receives a % of funding according to student attendance. After 7 weeks of attendance the 1st school keeps 100% of the semester’s funding and the parent does not have ESA+ funds for the 2nd school for that semester.
Need Help?
Parents for Educational Freedom in North Carolina (PEFNC) is a resource to help families find schools. Use their online tool, NCSchoolsAroundMe, to get a customized list of schools closest to you.

North Carolina’s Division of Non-Public Education (DNPE) registers and monitors nonpublic schools in the State. Parents register their Home School with DNPE.
Help With School Choice

https://www.ncseaa.edu/k12/choosing-a-school/ (scroll down)

You can also download two Parent Resource Guides from Parents for Educational Freedom in North Carolina (PEFNC).
Parents should check MyPortal **once a week**:  
• Are there items on the To Do list?  
• Look at Notifications. Maybe you’ve missed an email!

ESA+ students need updated documentation of a disability **every 3 years** (**3 years from the evaluation date on file**).  

**HOWEVER:** Parents, you will renew **annually** so that the ESA+ staff know you want your student to continue next year.

ESA+ is **not a reimbursement** program.  
• Very few exceptions (mainly the ESA+ Reimbursement Schools)  
• Do not purchase items or pay for services with the intent to submit a receipt.

Public School? If a student will be in the public school, full-time, in their assigned district, then they are **not eligible for ESA+**.  

➢ ESA+ is not available to students who are enrolled in their regular public school (including charter schools).
Summer Training for ESA+ Families

https://www.ncseaa.edu/esa-family-trainings/

Enrollment Options, Updating the Area of Disability, ESA+ Reimbursement Schools, Purchasing Curriculum, Planning for Summer Expenses, Continuing Eligibility, and more …

Register to attend live sessions or view recordings at your convenience.