

# ESA+ Enrollment Options

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North Carolina's ESA+ Scholarship Program

# Helpful Hints for Zoom

*Slides are already posted at <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

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Lots of Choices!

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# 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: 2024-2025***

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

County	Nonpublic School Name	City
Alamance	Alamance Christian School Graham	Graham
Alamance	Blessed Sacrament Catholic School Burlington	Burlington
Alamance	Bradford Academy Mebane	Mebane
Alamance	Burbrella Microschool Burlington	Burlington
Alamance	Burlington Christian Academy Burlington	Burlington
Alamance	Excel Christian Academy Burlington	Burlington
Alamance	Faith Christian Academy Burlington	Burlington
Alamance	Grace Christian Academy Haw River	Haw River
Alamance	Parrish Chapel Academy Graham	GRAHAM
Alamance	Positive Day School Burlington	Burlington
Alamance	Providence A Christian Montessori Community Burlington	Burlington
Alamance	The Burlington School Burlington	Burlington

County	Nonpublic School Name	City
Alexander	Millersville Christian Academy Taylorsville	Taylorsville

County	Nonpublic School Name	City
Anson	Apogee Anson Wadesboro	Wadesboro
Anson	Deep Creek Christian Academy Wadesboro	Wadesboro

[Direct  
Payment  
School List](#)

# 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. *(Listen to the ESA+ for Home Schools August 23<sup>rd</sup> recorded webinar at your convenience!)*
- 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.**



<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

Opportunity Scholarship

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](mailto: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.

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# Transfers

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# NC's K12 Scholarships are portable

ESA+ awards are funded to a student, not to a school. The scholarship is **portable**. Parents can transfer a student's scholarship to another eligible nonpublic school.

## When?

The easiest time to transfer schools is between semesters or at the end of the school year.

[K12 Programs: School Transfers](#)

## How?

1. Withdraw from your school.
2. Send a **Help Request** in MyPortal to notify us.
3. Program Staff will guide you through the remainder of the process.

# 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 2<sup>nd</sup> school in a semester depends on how long the student attended the 1<sup>st</sup> school.
- After 7 weeks of attendance the 1<sup>st</sup> school may be entitled to keep 100% of that semester's funding and the parent may not have ESA+ funds for the 2<sup>nd</sup> school for that semester.

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Having Trouble Finding a School?

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# 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 funds in your ClassWallet 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 won't need the award at all, let us know to decline it on your behalf as soon as you decide.

# Resources for School Choice

- [Parents for Educational Freedom in North Carolina \(PEFNC\)](#) is a resource to help families find schools. You can use their online tool, [NCSchoolsAroundMe](#), to get a customized list of the schools closest to you. They also offer a Parent Resource Guide for choosing a private school.
- North Carolina's [Division of Nonpublic Education](#) registers and monitors nonpublic schools in the State.

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# IMPORTANT ESA+ REMINDERS

Parents should check MyPortal **once a week**:

- Are there items on the To Do list?
- Look at Notifications. Maybe you've missed an email!

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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.

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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).

# CONTACT US



ncseaa.edu



[ESA@ncseaa.edu](mailto:ESA@ncseaa.edu)



**855-330-3955**

Monday-Thursday: 8am-6pm

Friday: 8am-5pm

**Summer Training for ESA+ Families**

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

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