

Plan for Summer Expenses

North Carolina's ESA+ Scholarship Program

Considerations:

Timing and Availability of Funds

Remaining Funds?

Students who attend a nonpublic school:

- May have funds remaining to use for allowable summer expenses after ESA+ has paid fall and spring tuition.

Students who attend a home school:

- May have funds remaining to use for allowable summer expenses after making purchases and paying accepted service providers throughout the school year.

Note: If a student's ESA+ funds all go toward tuition, or if a parent with a home school spends the annual amount through the year, there will not be 2024-25 funds left to use for summer expenses!

Planning Ahead

Things to consider when thinking about using funds for summer 2025:



- Remaining funds
- Timing
- Use of funds

ClassWallet access: *timing considerations*

Each summer, ESA+ access to ClassWallet will shut down (for fiscal-year-end reporting) for several weeks beginning in mid-June.

Plan to make final purchases for the year before May 31!

Tip: If you try to make a purchase at the last minute, you won't have time to re-order if the item is unavailable.

What is ClassWallet?

- a separate company that SEAA contracts with
- an online platform that hosts the **electronic account** on behalf of the ESA+ Program
- where ESA+ families use scholarship funds to:
 - make a payment to a service provider
 - purchase products that are ESA+ Allowable Expenses



Who Are Service Providers?

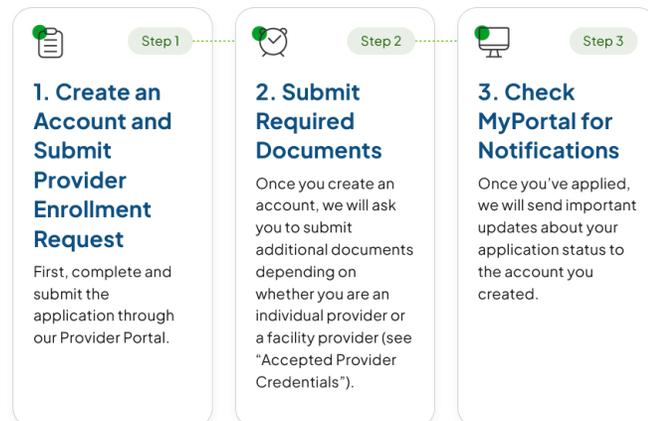
Therapists and tutors are service providers.

Service providers must be enrolled with and accepted by the ESA+ Program by March 1.

Families can also use funds to pay Direct Payment and ESA+ Reimbursement Schools who have registered to provide supplemental tutoring and/or therapy services.

Enrollment Process

It takes less than five minutes to apply to become eligible to accept payments from ESA+ scholarship families once you have all your information on hand. The enrollment review process will take 4–6 weeks once all documents are received. Please note that enrollment is unavailable from May 1 - August 1 each year.



<https://k12.ncseaa.edu/families-of-awarded-students/esaplus-program/service-providers/enrollment/#>

The provider must register themselves, but the parent may want to encourage them to do so, or explain the process.

Providers: *timing considerations*

If a provider has not started the registration process by March 1, 2025, parents will not be able to pay that provider for summer services.



Rollover of Funds: *timing considerations*

1. \$9,000 awardees have until approximately June 20 to spend 2024-25 ESA+ funds.
2. \$17,000 awardees can roll over up to \$4,500 of their 2024-25 funds to use in the summer or through the next year.



Considerations:

Allowable Summer Expenses



How Allowable Expenses Work

The amount of funding you have available for allowable expenses depends on whether you enroll your student in a private school, a reimbursement school, or a home school.

Learn More



These topics are links to explanations about WHICH expenses are allowable, and HOW parents pay for them

Families who have funds available for allowable expenses can use those funds to pay for the following education-related expenses:

-  **Tutoring** +
-  **Educational Therapy** +
-  **Curriculum** +
-  **Technology** +
-  **Transportation** +
-  **Tests** +
-  **Textbooks** +

<https://k12.ncseaa.edu/families-of-awarded-students/esaplus-program/allowable-expenses/>

(or select “Allowable Expenses” from the left side navigation)

Use of Funds During the Year or for the Summer

Qualified Products

- ❖ Curricula for academic subjects
- ❖ Textbooks
- ❖ Educational Technology

Qualified Services

- ❖ Tutoring/Teaching Services for academic subjects
- ❖ Educational Therapies

Summer Learning Program Providers

Summer learning experiences must be offered by a provider who has successfully registered with ESA+.



Direct Payment Schools are required to register with ESA+ in order to be paid as a provider. *This policy was effective as of the 2024-25 school year.*

Tip: Plan ahead for 2025 summer learning experiences. Check that your providers are successfully registered with ESA+ before March, to be sure.

Summer Learning Experiences

1. Summer services must be paid for by June 1.
2. Summer services may be tutoring, therapies, academic programs, or other summer learning experiences.
3. Like all approved services, summer experiences must be:
 - Therapeutic
 - Academic

or

 - Designed specifically for students with special needs



Tip: Many traditional summer camps are not a qualified expense.

Summer Learning: EXAMPLES

Talisman Camps: Summer Camps for Kids with Autism, Aspergers, and ADHD

<https://talismancamps.com/>

These programs are examples of camps that are registered to be ESA+ providers.

- There may be other services on the ESA+ list, and
- ESA+ will also be glad to register additional qualified programs.



Camp Royall

Welcome to Camp Royall!

<https://www.autismsociety-nc.org/camp-royall/>



<https://www.camplakeygap.org/>



Cornerstone Therapeutic Horsemanship

Marshall, NC 828-380-9554

Tutoring/ Therapies

Services that take place in June/July/August must be paid for in full by June 1.



Refunds For Any Summer Service

Refunds must be returned to ESA+ via ClassWallet. Contact ESA+ via email to ask for help regarding funds to be returned.

Note too that funds returned after the end of the fiscal year (June 30 each year) are not returned to a parent's account.





Home School Families: Will you need Curricula before September next year?

Make plans early, and plan to purchase before May 31!

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!

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, as normally assigned, then they are **not eligible for ESA+**.

- ESA+ is not permitted to provide funds to students who are enrolled in their regular public school (including charter schools).

Contact Us



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Monday-Thursday: 8am-6pm

Friday: 8am-5pm