



North Carolina ESA+ PROVIDERS

Enrolled Provider Training

About NCSEAA

Helping North Carolinians pay for education for 60 years

K12 Scholarships

- Opportunity Scholarship
- Education Student Accounts (ESA+)

Higher Education Scholarships & Investments

- College for North Carolina (CFNC)
- Scholarships
- Residency
 Determination service
- NC 529 Savings Plan

Higher Education Loans

- Forgivable Loans
- NC Assist Loans
- Loan Management





O1 ESA+ Overview
State Program, timelines,
Class Wallet

Key Terms
Tuition? Tutoring?

Provider Agreement
Be sure you know what you are agreeing to!

O4 ClassWallet
Direct Pay Vendors, 2.5%

1 Invoices
Include required data

New! Provider Toolkit
What can you put on your
website?





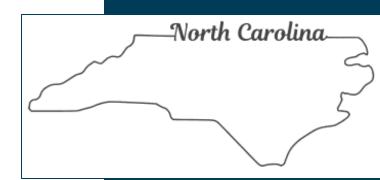
North Carolina Law & ESA+ Program Rules

- North Carolina lawmakers established the ESA+ Scholarship Program.
- Our state agency, the North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority (NCSEAA) is charged with administering ESA+.
- There are Rules which govern the operations of the ESA+ Program.
- The Education Student Accounts (ESA+) Program is funded by the State of North Carolina.

STATUTE and RULES:

https://www.ncseaa.edu/psr/k12-programs/





01

ESA+ Overview



ESA+ provides scholarships for expenses related to educating a child with a disability in a nonpublic (private or home) school.

Funds can be used for:

- ☐ Tuition and fees at eligible schools
- Products: curriculum, technology
- Services: therapy, tutoring, and transportation





How Does It Work?

- 1. The **ESA+ student** receives a service from a Provider.
- 2. The **Provider** gives parents an invoice.
- 3. The **Parent** submits the invoice via their ClassWallet account.
- 4. **ESA+ staff** review the invoice.
- 5. If *approved*, the student's ESA+ scholarship funds transfer to the provider's bank account.
- 6. If *rejected*, no funds transfer. The parent receives an explanation.





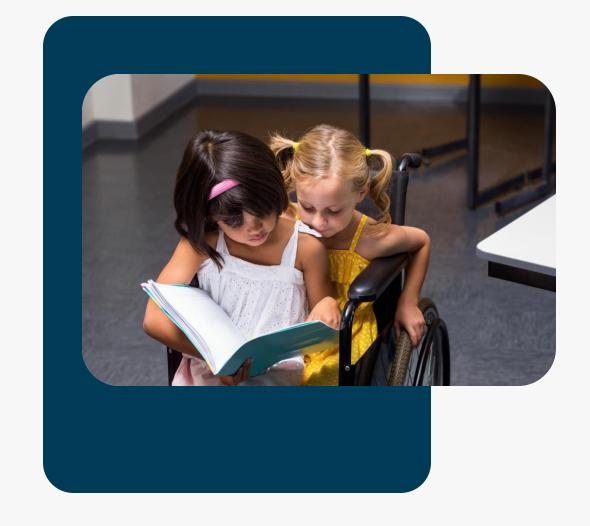
Timelines

ESA+ **funds** are **deposited** in parent accounts at the beginning of each semester:

- August/September for fall
- January for spring

ESA+ closes ClassWallet:

- for calendar year-end processes the last week of December
- for fiscal year-end processes: late June through early July







How do families pay for summer expenses?

- ☐ Families can <u>prepay</u> in the spring for summer expenses. (summer = June, July, August)
- ☐ Families cannot pay in the fall (retroactively) for expenses in June or earlier.



02 Key Terms



Schools vs Tutors

- A School is registered with the North Carolina Division of Non-Public Education (DNPE).
- School costs are called tuition and fees.





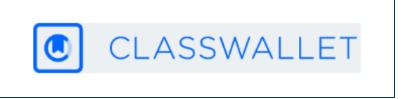
A Provider of Educational Services enrolls with ESA+ to provide Tutoring and Teaching Services.

For the purposes of ESA+, providers can't charge tuition.





- **Direct Pay Vendors** are the Providers. Families submit an invoice and select the correct Provider from the list of Direct Pay Vendors.
- The Marketplace is where families shop online for curricula and technology.





In the Service Provider section of the ESA+ website you'll find reference copies of the Provider Agreements: https://k12.ncseaa.edu/families-of-awarded-students/esaplus-program/service-providers/enrollment/

03

Provider Agreement



A Provider Cannot ...

 be a member of the student's immediate family, or

• if the student is a Home School student, the Provider cannot be a member of the households belonging to the student's Home School.





A Provider Cannot ...

• Refund ESA+ scholarship payments to the parent.

Contact the ESA+ Program for help with refunds.

ESAprovider@ncseaa.edu





A Provider Must ...

• be enrolled with ESA+ prior to the date of service that will be paid for with ESA+ funds.





Are you enrolled with ESA+ as a Facility?

Facilities warrant that...

• their Providers are credentialed as required.

• the Facility will ensure that employees receive and review a copy of the Provider Agreement.





Misuse of Funds

SEAA has zero tolerance for misuse of ESA+ funds. Examples of misspent funds by parents include:

- using funds for anything other than Qualifying Education Expenses
- using funds on behalf of someone other than the student awarded an ESA+ scholarship
- using funds when the ESA+ student is enrolled full time in their regular public school

A parent who has made an error in spending should self report and notify SEAA immediately.

ESA@ncseaa.edu or 855.330.3955



04 ClassWallet



ClassWallet is ...

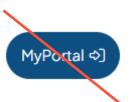
- a separate company SEAA contracts with
- an online platform that hosts the electronic account on behalf of the ESA+ Program
- where ESA+ families use scholarship funds to:
 - Make a payment to a service provider
 - Purchase products that are allowable expenses



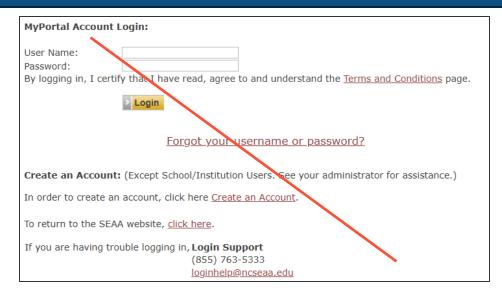


Where to Log In ...

ESA+ Providers are not currently using the portal that families and schools use. You should **not** need to sign in to MyPortal.



You **may** need to log back in to the Provider Portal where you began the enrollment process.

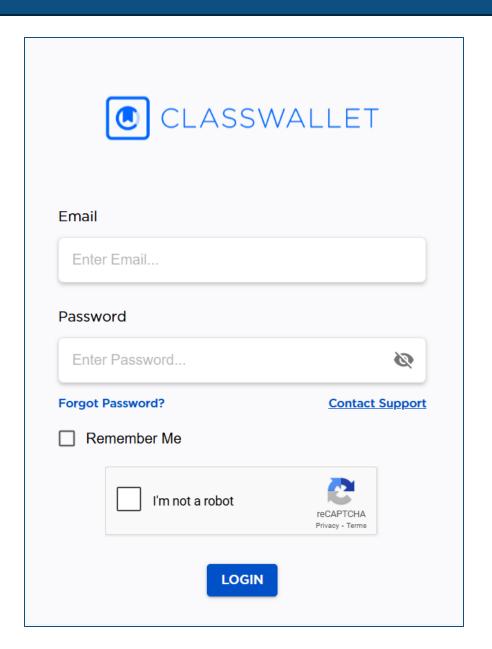




Where to Log In ...

Your primary portal as an ESA+ enrolled provider is the **Direct Pay Vendor Portal on the ClassWallet** platform.

https://vendor.classwallet.com/authentication/login.



Who to Contact?

For technical issues, questions about ClassWallet communications, or for reports available to you, contact ClassWallet.

help@classwallet.com

877.969.5536

For questions about your enrollment, contact ESA+.

ESAprovider@ncseaa.edu

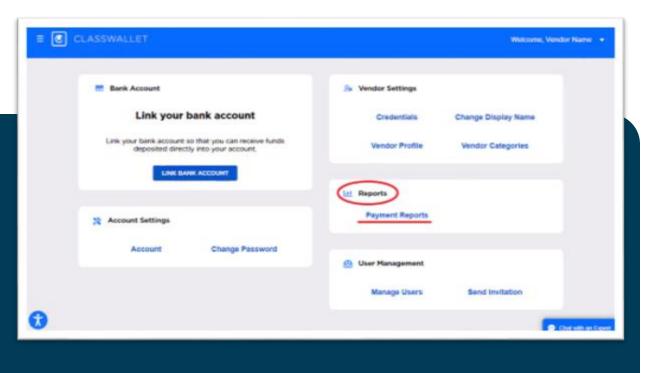
919.695.8742 option 2

PLEASE NOTE:

You should **not** reach out to ESA+ on behalf of families. The ESA+ parent is responsible for their student's scholarship and the policies around allowable expenses.



ClassWallet Reports



Payment Reports

You can access payment reports from your Vendor ClassWallet Account to reconcile transactions with your bank account.

https://classwallet.my.site.com/classwallet/s/article/Enhanced-DirectPay-Vendor-Reports

2.5% Fee

Payments through ClassWallet are assessed a 2.5 % fee, similar to how merchants pay for accepting credit card payments.

• If an ESA+ parent requests to pay \$100 to a provider, the provider will receive \$97.50.

• (2.5% of \$100 = \$2.50)

https://classwallet.my.site.com/classwallet/s/article/2-5-Fee-information-for-Direct-Pay-Vendors-Processing



Can ESA+ Funds Pay the 2.5% Fee?

It depends ...

Do you accept credit cards, generally?

- If so, and if you charge that credit card fee to your customers, then **yes**, you can charge the ClassWallet transaction fee to your ESA+ parents, and the ESA+ funds can pay for it. **IMPORTANT**: See the next slides regarding how to invoice this fee!
- If you accept credit cards and don't charge the fees back to your customers, then **no**, you can't charge ESA+ for the transaction fee.



TIP: Treat the 2.5% like a credit card fee.

05

Invoices



Be sure that the **invoices** you provide to parents include:

- Your name or your company's name
- The student's name
- The name of the parent/guardian being charged*
- Type of service/ therapy
- Date(s) of service/ therapy
- Amount charged for service/therapy
- Line item for 2.5% Transaction Fee, if included

*The **parent of record** for the ESA+ scholarship must also be the party responsible charged on the uploaded invoice.

For more information:

https://k12.ncseaa.edu/media/alippfqg/esa-invoice-documentation.pdf







If you charge credit card fees to your customers (or if you don't accept credit cards at all) you <u>can</u> add the 2.5% to your invoice.

Add "Transaction Fee" as a separate line item.







06

Provider Toolkit & Resources



Provider Resources

How Can Families Find Out that I am Approved to be Paid with ESA+ Funds?

- **Provider Database** North Carolina's ESA+ providers are listed on the searchable <u>Provider Database</u> on our website.
- **Provider Toolkit** You may use the materials included in this toolkit to let families know that you are enrolled as a provider in the ESA+ scholarship program and are approved to be paid with ESA+ funds.

Toolkit available here:

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





Provider Resources Badge

Allowed Uses

 To let families know that you are enrolled and may accept ESA+ funds for allowable expenses

Not Allowed

- The SEAA or ESA+ logo in promotional materials, publications, social media, or other online platforms.
- Statements or representations suggesting that SEAA provides credentialing, certification, or an official endorsement of your qualifications, or a recommendation of your services.
- You may not advertise that individual services you provide are "eligible",
 "allowable" or "approved" by the ESA+ scholarship program, or as meeting the
 criteria for a qualifying education expense unless expressly authorized by ESA+ staff
 in writing.



Provider Resources

Website

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



Awarded Families

School Administrators

Providers

ne Opportunity Scholarship

SA+ Abou

Us



Home ▶ Families of Awarded Students ▶ ESA+ Program ▶ Service Providers

Service Providers

Information for tutors, educational therapists, and transportation providers who enroll to accept payments from ESA+ scholarship families.



Resources for Enrolled Providers

- Allowable Expenses
- What Should an Invoice Include?
- ClassWallet Payment Process
- How to pay a vendor



Frequently asked questions

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How are credit card fees charged?

How many times may a student see an educational therapist?

Is proof of diagnosis required to receive +

Contact Us



www.k12.ncseaa.edu



ESAprovider@ncseaa.edu



919.695.8742 option 2



