

Education Savings Accounts in Tennessee

What can ESAs be used for?

Each ESA is roughly \$7,100 and will increase slightly each year.

ESAs funds may be used at vendors pre-approved by the Department of Education for:

- Tuition and fees at a participating K-12 school
- Fees for transportation to and from school
- Required textbooks
- Computers or devices used for educational needs
- School uniforms
- Tutoring services provided by an approved tutor or facility
- Summer or afterschool educational programs
- Educational therapy services
- Fees for high school dual enrollment courses at colleges and universities
- Fees for college admission exams
- Any unused ESA funds remaining after K-12 education may be rolled over into a college fund for tuition, fees, and textbooks at eligible colleges and universities, vocational, technical, or trade schools

Who Can Participate?

- Students must be in grades Kindergarten-12 beginning in the 2020-2021 school year.
- Students must be zoned to attend Shelby County Schools, Metro Nashville Schools, or the Achievement School District.
- Students must be one of the following:
 - Enrolled in a Tennessee public school for the prior school year,
 - Entering Kindergarten, or
 - Entering any grade having just moved to Tennessee.
- Students' household income must not exceed \$43,966 for a two-person household, \$55,458 for a three-person household, \$66,950 for a four-person household, or \$78,442 for a five-person household for the 2019-2020 school year (limits will increase slightly each year).
- Parents must verify household income annually by submitting their federal tax return from the previous year or proof that the household is eligible for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

What Schools Can Participate?

- Participating schools must be classified as Category I, II, or III by the TN Department of Education.
- Private schools remain independent but can not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national origin. Participating schools are not required to alter their creeds, practices, or curriculum.
- Schools must administer the state end-of-year TNReady tests for Math and English Language Arts for students with an ESA in grades 3-11 each year.
- Faculty at participating schools must undergo background checks.

Visit www.tnesa.org to learn more about Tennessee's ESA program

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