

Understanding the Children with Disabilities Scholarship Grant



HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

This program allows families to be reimbursed up to \$8,000 (\$4,000 per semester) for approved educational expenses for their child with special needs. Often these expenses include private school tuition, tutoring, and other therapeutic services. The amount is determined by qualifying expenses, not a family's income level. For families who choose to send their child to a private school, they may apply the tuition payment directly to the school in lieu of it being a reimbursable expense if the school is a participating school.

Applications for the 2021-22 school year will be available on January 31, 2021 until March 15 at the State Education Assistance Authority (ncseaa.edu). Parents will be notified in April, pending funding.



To qualify, a student must:

- Be a child with a disability (Families must provide the Eligibility Determination Form, or DEC-3, from a North Carolina public school system.)
- Receive special education the semester for reimbursement of related services, special education, or technology
- Be at least 5 by August 31st, but younger than 22



In addition to the left, the student must:

- Have been previously approved to receive the grant
- OR**
- Have been enrolled in a North Carolina public school for the previous semester or Department of Defense school in North Carolina
- OR**
- Have a parent on full time active duty status in the military
- OR**
- Be eligible for enrollment in kindergarten or first grade in a North Carolina public school
- OR**
- Have lived in North Carolina for at least six months

The student is ineligible if:

- They do not provide a DEC-3 form
- They have received a high school diploma
- They have been placed in a nonpublic school at public expense
- They receive public school services while using the grant
- They have spent any time enrolled as a full-time student taking at least 12 hours of academic credit in a postsecondary educational institution

[Visit exceptionalednc.org](http://exceptionalednc.org) and a member of our team will help determine if your child may qualify!

THE APPLICATION FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR IS CLOSED AND WILL RE-OPEN ON JANUARY 31, 2021 FOR THE 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR.