

# Disabilities Grant Program

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Information for Parents and School Administrators

What is the  
Disabilities Grant  
Program?

# Disabilities Grant Program



**Expands school choice for eligible students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.**

- For tuition and required fees at a participating nonpublic school, and certain other expenses related to educating a child with a disability
- Awards up to \$6,000 per student per school year.

# NCSEAA administers the program

- Manages the application and award process.
- Ensures the school meets program requirements.
- Verifies each student's eligibility.
- Disburses Disabilities Grant funds.

Which nonpublic schools  
participate in the program?

# Participating schools list



North Carolina State Education  
Assistance Authority



## Elementary through High School Scholarship Grants

[Opportunity Scholarships](#)

[Special Education Scholarship Grants for Children with Disabilities](#)

## Opportunity Scholarship Program

The Opportunity Scholarship Program expands school choice in kindergarten through 12th grade. This program provides funds to attend a participating nonpublic school.

The ongoing legal challenge to the Opportunity Scholarship program. The Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of the Opportunity Scholarship program. The Authority will send funds to the nonpublic schools enrolling school children.

To apply for the Opportunity Scholarship for the first time, complete the application. Students who have not received an Opportunity Scholarship are not eligible for the program.

All eligible applicants who apply after **March 1, 2015** are placed on the waiting list. An applicant's position on the waiting list is determined as follows: based on their lottery number. Applicants who apply after March 1, 2015 are not eligible.

When the NC General Assembly completes the budget process, additional students may be added to the waiting list.

For full details, read the [Opportunity Scholarship Program Overview](#).

[Opportunity Scholarship Portal](#)

[Program Overview](#)

[Current List of Nonpublic Schools](#)

[Household Income Worksheet](#)

[Opportunity Scholarship FAQ](#)

[Information for Nonpublic Schools](#)

**Can public schools participate?**

# Public schools where tuition is required

- Tuition may be required if a student attends an out-of-district public school.
- Disabilities Grant can reimburse a family for this tuition.
- Disabilities Grant cannot reimburse other expenses besides tuition to this same family.



What types of expenses does the  
Disabilities Grant cover?

# *Four* categories of expenses

1. **Tuition** at a participating nonpublic school is paid directly to the school on behalf of the student.

*Families will be reimbursed for the following expenses:*

2. **Special Education** instruction from a qualified provider which is designed to meet the needs of the student; and Special Education curriculum or testing materials.
3. **Related Services** such as speech therapy or physical therapy from a qualified provider.
4. **Educational Technology** used primarily for educational purposes for a child with a disability.

How do I know if my student  
is eligible to apply for  
a Disabilities Grant?

# Eligibility

An eligible student meets all these requirements.

- is 5 years old on or before August 31.
- has not graduated from high school.
- is a resident of North Carolina.
- Is a child with a disability who requires special education, as documented by the public school IEP (Individualized Education Program).



# Eligibility (continued)

An eligible student meets **at least 1** of these requirements.

- received a Disabilities Grant last year
- was a full-time student attending a NC public school last spring semester (at least 75 school days of the second semester)
- is entering kindergarten or 1st grade

I want to apply.

Where do I find the application?

# Forms online

New Student Application:

**[www.NCSEAA.edu](http://www.NCSEAA.edu)**

Renewal:

- Via the Disabilities Grant Student Portal.
- Each renewing student needs a separate renewal.

When do I submit  
my completed application?



# Application period begins



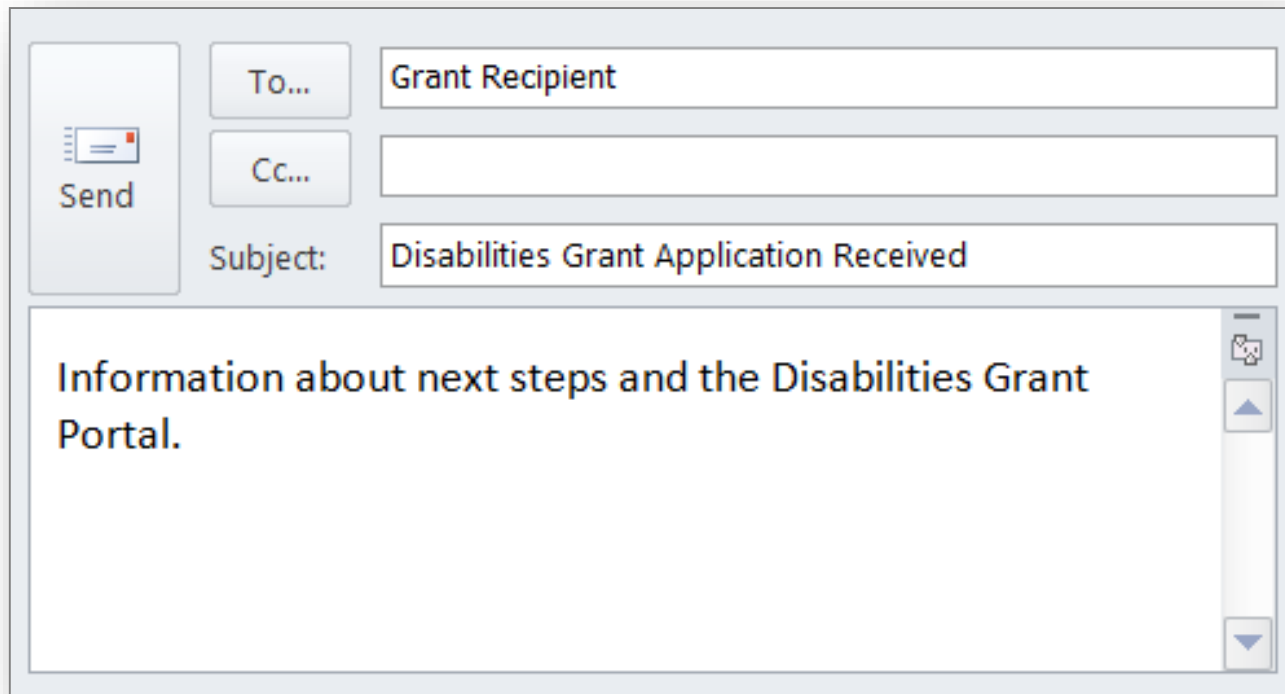
What specific document do I need  
from the IEP process?

# IEP (Individualized Education Program)

- Issued by the public school system.
- Specific document = **DEC3 Eligibility Determination.**
- Initial eligibility requires a current public school IEP.
- Re-evaluation every three years by the public school system or by a licensed psychologist with a school psychology focus.

How do I know  
if my application  
was received by SEAA?

# You've got mail!



When will I find out if I'm going to  
get the Disabilities Grant?

# Award notification

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

How is the school paid?



# NCSEAA sends grant funds directly to the school for tuition

NCSEAA

MMDDYY  
DATE

PAY TO THE ORDER OF SCHOOL NAME

Amount \$ XXXX.XX

DOLLARS Security Features Details on back

FOR Disabilities Grant NCSEAA

⑆000000186⑆ 000000529⑈ 1000

\* You must **sign** an endorsement form **at your chosen school before** any funds can be sent.

How are the families paid?

# NCSEAA reimburses the parent for Special Education, Related Services, and Educational Technology

NCSEAA

MMDDYY  
DATE

PAY TO THE ORDER OF PARENT NAME \$ XXXX.XX

Amount DOLLARS Security Features Details on back

FOR Disabilities Grant NCSEAA

⑆000000186⑆ 000000529⑈ 1000

\* You must submit a **W9** and an **Electronic Funds Transfer form** before payment is issued.

# Additional Information



[www.ncseaa.edu](http://www.ncseaa.edu)



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



**1-855-330-3955 (toll-free)**