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What is an Education Savings Account?

Education Savings Accounts (ESAs) put families in the driver's seat of their child's education.

In practice, an ESA is simple - instead of sending state education dollars directly to the public school system where the child lives, the state deposits a portion of those funds into an account managed by the child's parents. The family can then use those dollars to choose the learning environment and resources that best meet their child's needs. Importantly, ESA funds can only be spent on certain education-related expenses, like the ones listed below.

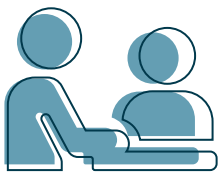
Types of Educational Expenses for Which ESAs May Be Used:



Private school
tuition and fees



Transportation



Tutoring services



Education therapies



Curriculum



Textbooks

Are ESAs and Vouchers Different?

In short, yes. Vouchers can only be used for private school tuition, while ESAs can be used for a variety of qualifying education expenses.



Where Does Mississippi Stand?

Mississippi currently has an ESA program for students with special needs, but only about 500 students participate today. Meanwhile, all of our neighboring states have made ESA programs available to every family in their state.