

Arizona's Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) Program

PARENT GUIDE



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ESA PROGRAM OVERVIEW

What is the Arizona ESA Program?

Arizona's Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) is a program, available to all Arizona school-aged children, that helps parents pay for private school tuition, curriculum, home education, tutoring and more.

Why would I apply for Arizona's ESA Program?

Scholarship funds are available for any Arizona student who attends or wants to make the switch to attend a private school, virtual private school, or be educated at home. ESA funds can be used to pay for virtual private schools or home education programs located inside or outside Arizona.

What will my ESA scholarship funds cover?

The Arizona Department of Education maintains a comprehensive list of [approved spending categories](#) and ESA allowable items. Your ESA scholarship funds can be used to pay for private school tuition, curriculum, home education programs, and other educational expenses, allowing for a broad application.

How much scholarship money will I receive to use towards my child's education?

According to the [Arizona Department of Education](#), students in grades 1-12 are expected to receive between \$6,000 - \$9,000 in scholarship funds, and kindergarten students could expect to receive \$4,000 - \$5,000. Individual scholarship awards vary based on several factors, with special needs students receiving additional funding.

Does my child qualify to receive scholarship funding through Arizona's ESA program?

Every K-12 student in Arizona is eligible to participate in the state's Empowerment Scholarship Account (ESA) program, regardless of family income, where the student lives within the state, or the student's past academic performance. Students are eligible for ESA funding to use towards any type of private school or home school program, including virtual private schools and home school programs, even if they already attend the school or home school programs.

1. Students must reside within the state of Arizona
2. Students must be between the ages of 4 and 22

How and where can I apply for Arizona's ESA program?

You will need to visit the Arizona Department of Education ([ADE website](#)), to create an ADEConnect account and submit an application on behalf of your student(s). If you are the Parent or Guardian of more than one ESA student, you only need to create one ADEConnect account for the household.



Students in K-12 receive \$7,000 per year, on average!

Apply Any Time! Open year round.



[Click here](#) to see a step-by-step video of the ESA application process in **English**.



[Click here](#) to see a step-by-step video of the ESA application process in **Spanish**.

ESA APPLICATION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

01

Apply to Arizona's ESA Program

Create an ADE Connect account and submit an application on behalf of your student(s) at the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) website. The Arizona Department of Education will also ask you to submit the following documents with your student's application via your ADEConnect account.

Required Documents

Proof of Student's Age

(Acceptable documentation listed below)

- Student's birth certificate



Proof of Arizona Residence (Choose 1)

(Acceptable documentation listed below)

- Property tax bill with name and address within one year
- W2 tax form for previous year with valid current address
- Utility bill within the past 60 days (water, electric, gas, cable, landline phone)
- Certificate of tribal enrollment (506 Form) or other identification issued by a recognized Indian tribe located in Arizona
- Other documentation with a current address from a state, tribal, or federal agency within the past 60 days (Social Security Administration, Veterans' Administration, Arizona Department of Economic Security)
- For Reservation addresses: Physical address verification letter from a fire department, police department, tribal agency, or Chapter House within the past 60 days
- Temporary on-base billeting facility (for military families) within the past 60 days
- A notarized Affidavit of Shared Residence if you don't have a proof of residence in your name

02

Sign ESA Contract

Once your student's application is processed, you will receive an email from the Arizona Department of Education to inform you of whether your student's application was approved or denied.

- You can expect your student's application to be processed and receive a decision within 30 days of submitting the application.
- If your student's application is approved, you will receive a separate email containing an ESA contract.
- The ESA contract is a digital DocuSign form that you will need to digitally sign and complete.
- Once the ESA contract is signed and completed, it will automatically send the signed copy back to the Arizona Department of Education.

03

Receive Scholarship Funds via ClassWallet

After you have signed and submitted your ESA contract, the Arizona Department of Education will setup your ClassWallet account.

- It can take up to 3 weeks for your ClassWallet account to be setup and funded with your student's scholarship money.
- You will receive an email from the Arizona Department of Education once your ClassWallet account has been setup and funded. This email will also include instructions on how to access your ClassWallet account via your ADEConnect account.
- Class Wallet is a 3rd party payment system that the ADE uses to administer payment of scholarship funds, which you can use to pay for your student's private school tuition or home school program.

Receiving Funds

The Arizona Department of Education will distribute scholarship payments to your student's ClassWallet on a quarterly basis. (Ex. If your student is awarded an annual scholarship in the amount of \$7,000, you will receive a payment of \$1,750 in your student's ClassWallet account each quarter of the year. You will receive your first quarterly payment the month that your ESA contract is signed.

Quarterly Payment Schedule

Quarter	Dates
01	July 1 - September 30
02	October 1 - December 31
03	January 1 - March 31
04	April 1 - June 30

[Click here](#) for step-by-step directions on how to access your ClassWallet account once it has been set up by the Arizona Department of Education. These directions will also be included in the email you receive from the Arizona Department of Education once they have set up your ClassWallet account.

[Click here](#) for a step-by-step video on how you can pay tuition at your student's private school or home school program via your ClassWallet account.

04

Enroll Your Student in a Private School or Home School Program of Choice

You are now ready to enroll your student in a private school or home school program of choice!



K12 PRIVATE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT PROCESS AND TIMELINE

01 Identify K12 Private School of Choice

Find the K12 private school that's best suited to your student's needs. Check out the featured school below or view a list of K12's Arizona Empowerment Scholarship eligible private schools by [clicking here](#).

Explore Grand Canyon Private Academy



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- Serving grades K-12
- Seminar based learning
- High socialization



[View all K12 Empowerment Scholarship eligible private schools here!](#)

04 Complete School Tuition Payment

After the required enrollment documents have been uploaded, the final step will be to pay tuition. You can pay tuition at your K12 private school or home school program of choice via your ClassWallet account.

ClassWallet Direct Payment

Request a school tuition quote from K12's enrollment team and upload the tuition quote to your ClassWallet account to have the tuition transferred directly to the school.

[Click here](#) for step-by-step directions on making a ClassWallet direct tuition payment.



02 Submit School Application

Once you and your student have determined which K12 Arizona Empowerment Scholarship eligible private school is best, provide your information and complete your student's enrollment application.

03 Consult with our enrollment team

When your student's application is complete, you will be contacted by our enrollment team to answer questions and guide you through the ESA process.

05

Your student is now officially enrolled in their K12 private school of choice!

You will receive a parent and student onboarding call a week before school starts. This call is meant to ensure that you and your student are fully prepared for a successful start in their new school.



ESA RESOURCES

QUESTIONS?

Do you have questions about the Arizona Empowerment Scholarship Account program or how to utilize Arizona ESA scholarship funds to pay tuition at a K12 eligible private school or program?



Call Us at 855-869-9973



Arizona Empowerment Scholarship Account Parent Resource Links

- [EMPOWERMENT SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT PROGRAM – MAIN WEBSITE](#)
- [PROGRAM FAQs](#)
- [PARENT HANDBOOK \(ENGLISH VERSION\)](#)
- [PARENT HANDBOOK \(SPANISH VERSION\)](#)
- [COMPLETING THE ESA APPLICATION PROCESS – STEP BY STEP VIDEO](#)
- [CLASSWALLET SETUP AND SCHOOL TUITION PAYMENT GUIDE](#)
- [USING CLASSWALLET TO MAKE SCHOOL TUITION PAYMENTS – STEP BY STEP VIDEO](#)
- [K12 PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS REGISTERED VIA ARIZONA'S ESA PROGRAM](#)

