



Loaves & Fishes

How much money is available?

The state has budgeted \$1 billion, which will serve approximately 70,000- 90,000 students. The amount available to each student is based on their circumstances.

Who qualifies as a “child with disabilities?”

A student may qualify as a child with a disability if they are at least three years old but not more than 21 years old and have one or more of the following conditions that prevent them from being adequately or safely educated in public school without special services:

- Visual or auditory impairment
- Physical disability
- Intellectual or developmental disability
- Emotional disturbance
- Learning disability
- Autism
- Speech disability
- Traumatic brain injury OR an Individual Education Plan (IEP)

Some or all of the following documents may be needed to prove a child with disabilities:

- A letter verifying the child’s eligibility to receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- A written diagnosis from a licensed physician verifying one of the listed disabilities
- An Individualized Education Program (IEP) issued by a Texas public school district or open-enrollment charter school.

How is the money made available to families?

- Quarterly transfers into Texas Education Freedom Accounts will be made on the first day of July, October, January, and April.
- If a child enrolls in the program after the beginning of the school year, the amount transferred is prorated based on the date of enrollment.
- Any money remaining in a participating child’s account will be carried over to the next fiscal year.
- Transfers to an account are not considered taxable income unless otherwise provided by federal or another state’s law.

What is required of parents whose children have been given Texas Education Freedom Accounts?

Parents must agree to:

- Spend program money only for eligible expenses
- Share child's assessment results with EAO
- Not sell an item purchased with program money and
- Notify the EAO within 30 days of child enrolling in public school, graduating high school,
- or otherwise becoming ineligible to enroll in public school

