



Education Savings Accounts

Student eligibility requirements: Primary requirements

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Below is the most common eligibility requirement for education savings account programs and the number of states that have them.

- **Students with a disability: Four** states. Generally, these programs require eligible students to have an identified disability and an Individualized Education Program. **One** state's criteria for eligibility includes students with an identified disability, along with other factors, such as residing in a low-performing school district or being a child of an active duty member of the armed forces.

Note: Some states require students to attend a public school prior to participating in a private school choice program. Please refer to the "Student eligibility requirement: Previous public school attendance" data point to see which states and programs have such requirements for the given private school choice program.

STATE	Program name	Student eligibility requirements: Primary requirements
Arizona	Arizona Empowerment Scholarship	<p>Students who meet one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is identified as having a disability. - Attends a public school or is scheduled to attend a public school that receives a D or an F letter grade. - A child of a parent who is a member of the armed forces of the United States and who is on active duty or was killed in the line of duty. - Is a ward of juvenile court. - Has a sibling who receives or has received the scholarship. - A child who lives on an Indian reservation. - Has a parent who is blind or deaf or hard of hearing. - Participated previously in the program.
Florida	The Gardiner Scholarship	<p>Students who meet all of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - State resident - Has a disability and an IEP - Must not be enrolled in public school - Must not be enrolled in a program with the Department of Juvenile Justice.

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Mississippi	Equal Opportunity for Students with Special Needs Program	<p>Students who have had an active Individualized Education Program within the past three years and maintained eligibility.</p> <p>Applications for participation in the program are approved on a first-come, first-served basis until enrollment reaches 50% of the yearly limit. Once enrollment reaches 50%, the department of education will set application deadlines and maintain a waitlist. Applications are approved in chronological order according to the waitlist.</p>
North Carolina	Personal Education Savings Account	Students with disabilities that have not been placed in a nonpublic school or facility by a public agency at public expense.
Tennessee	Individualized Education Account (IEA) Program	<p>Students with an IEP who have been diagnosed with any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Autism - Deaf-blindness - Hearing impairment (including deafness) - Intellectual disability - Orthopedic impairment - Traumatic brain injury - Developmental delay - Visual impairment (including blindness) - Multiple disabilities
West Virginia	Hope Scholarship Program	<p>Students who reside in the state and meet one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Entering Kindergarten and eligible to attend a public school. - Attended a public school in the previous year. - Attended a public school for 45 days prior to applying for the scholarship account. <p>If, by 2024, less than 5% of eligible students participated in the program in the previous school year, home school and private school students are eligible to participate effective July 1, 2026.</p>