



## What is an Education Savings Account?

An Education Savings Account (ESA) is a deposit of public funds into government-authorized savings accounts which eligible families may use to cover tuition, fees, and other qualified education expenses at accredited private schools in Iowa. Parents who enroll their eligible children in an accredited private school will receive an estimated **\$7,635** per pupil for the **2023- 2024 school year**. Funds are deposited into the student's ESA each year until the student graduates high school or turns 20. The remaining balance is returned to the state general fund. **Parents must apply for an ESA through the Iowa Department of Education to receive the funds.** The application process opened on May 31, 2023. **Applications are due by June 30, 2023.**

## Who is eligible for ESA funds, and when will they be made available?

The new law will be phased in over three years, beginning with the 2023-2024 school year. Applications opened on May 31, 2023. **Applications are due by June 30, 2023.**

### Year 1 2023-2024

- All full-time kindergarten students
- Students who are currently homeschooled & register full-time in a private school
- All students transferring from a public school
- Any student enrolled in an accredited private school meeting the income guidelines:
  - 300% at or below the poverty level

Please refer to **Step 3** on the **Enrollment Process** handout.

### Year 2 2024-2025

- All full-time kindergarten students
- All families who qualified for an ESA in 2023-2024
- Students who are currently homeschooled & register full-time in a private school
- All students transferring from a public school
- Any student enrolled in an accredited private school meeting the income guidelines:
  - 400% at or below the poverty level

### Year 3 2025-2026

- All K-12 students enrolled in an accredited private school regardless of income.

**Please visit the Kuemper website or the Iowa Department of Education website for additional information.**

<https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/education-savings-accounts>



ESA Info

## What about the Diocese of Sioux City Scholarship Program and Kuemper tuition assistance?

The new ESAs will not affect eligibility for tuition assistance provided to families through the Diocese of Sioux City Scholarship Program, including MLTF - Monsignor Lafferty Tuition Foundation and local Kuemper scholarships and funds. The need for tuition assistance is ongoing as the cost of providing an exceptional faith-based education increases. The goal remains to provide tuition assistance to families desiring a Catholic education for their children. Any family eligible for tuition assistance is encouraged to apply.

## Do Catholic schools accept students with diverse learning needs?

Kuemper is committed to working with all learners to the best of our ability, including children who may require additional support. Additionally, all faculty benefit from professional development in differentiating instruction to support whole-child development. We will continue to work with parents, the Iowa Area Education Agency (AEA), and our local public school partners to meet the academic and behavioral needs of students with Individual Education Plans (IEP).