

**Required Documentation for the Disabilities Grant and Education Savings Account (ESA) Programs**

For first time applicants, parents must submit a current DEC3 Eligibility Determination (DEC3) form from the student’s active Individualized Education Program (IEP). The forms must be from a North Carolina public school or a North Carolina Local Education Agency (LEA).

A first time applicant is a student for whom:

1. A program application has never been submitted, or
2. A program application was submitted but the student was not awarded, or
3. A program application was submitted, the student was awarded, but the student did not participate in the program. Therefore, funds were not expended on behalf of the student during school year prior to the semester for which the application is being submitted.

For renewing applicants, parents may submit a current DEC3 form from the student’s active IEP. The forms must be from a North Carolina public school or a North Carolina LEA. Parents may also submit a Documentation of Continuing Eligibility form from a North Carolina Licensed Psychologist with a school psychology focus or a North Carolina Licensed Psychiatrist.

A renewing applicant is a student for whom a program application was submitted, the student was awarded, and funds were expended on behalf of the student during the school year prior to the semester for which the application is being submitted.

The Disabilities Grant and ESA programs are not interchangeable therefore, actions, participation, etc. for one program may not solely substitute the actions, participation, etc. for the other.

***What does the DEC3 form look like?***

The DEC3 form starts with “Eligibility Determination” displayed across the top of the page and ends with a list of the IEP team names. At most, a DEC3 is 1-2 pages.



**Note:** A 504 Plan is not the same as an IEP.

***What is the date requirement of the DEC3 form?***

The date of the DEC3 form must be within the last three years. See the table below for examples of when a DEC3 form must be dated for a particular academic year.

<b>Award for Academic Year</b>	<b>DEC3 Meeting Date must be:</b>
2019-20	1/1/16 or later
2020-21	1/1/17 or later
2021-22	1/1/18 or later

***How do I track down the right documents?***

The DEC3 Worksheets may be included with the DEC3 form, but they are not used to determine a student’s program eligibility for the Disabilities Grant or Education Savings Account Program. If you are unable to locate the document, contact the public school or LEA to request a copy of the active IEP and DEC3 form.

***Nothing in this document should be construed to supersede the Program Statute, Program Rules or other Program policies. In addition, these policies do not represent an exhaustive list of all Program rules; rather these policies are set forth to provide a broad overview of the Program. See the Program Rules and Statutes on each Program’s [website](#) for more details.***

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