



TEXAS EDUCATION FREEDOM ACCOUNTS

PARENT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The Texas Education Freedom Accounts (TEFA) program will be accepting applications from February 4 through March 17, 2026. All Texas children are eligible to apply if they live in Texas and are a United States citizen or were lawfully admitted into the U.S. To prepare for the TEFA application, parents should gather the following documents.

ALL APPLICANTS NEED

- Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number for the parent.
- SSN for the child.
- Form 1040, U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, for 2024 or 2025.

TEXAS RESIDENCY DOCUMENTS

- Texas Driver's license number or state ID number.

If your driver's license or state ID number cannot be verified, proof of residency can be established by uploading one of the following:

- utility bill;
- lease agreement;
- mortgage statement; or
- voter registration certificate.

STUDENT DOCUMENTS

If your child's SSN cannot be verified, proof of lawful status can be established by uploading one of the following:

- birth certificate;
- report of birth abroad;
- certificate of naturalization;
- certificate of citizenship; or
- other official documentation affirming lawful admission.

OPTIONAL DOCUMENTS

For Prioritization Purposes:

- TEFA Disability Certification Form approved by the Comptroller (only required if the student requires special needs services and the student does not have an official individualized education program (IEP) on file with TEA). This form will be available in January 2026 on our website;
- Full and Individual Initial Evaluation; or
- Texas IEP or out of state IEP.

For Additional Funding and Prioritization:

- Texas IEP.

Your IEP will be verified using the child's Texas unique student identification number (this can be provided by the student's school district). This number exists if the student has ever been enrolled in a public school or charter school within the state of Texas OR if the student has a registered IEP with the TEA. For the additional funding, an IEP must be on file with TEA by the end of the application period. If you need an IEP, please start that process as soon as possible.

Funding decisions will be made after the close of the application window to allow for priority determinations and will not be made on a first-come, first-serve basis. Note: all eligible children are not guaranteed funding; participation will be determined via a lottery process if eligible applicants exceed available program funding. For more information, visit educationfreedom.texas.gov.