



To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

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DATE:	January 23, 2025
SUBJECT:	Parent-Directed Special Education Services (PDSSES) Application Opens February 3, 2025
CATEGORY:	Program Overview, Application Instructions and Dates
NEXT STEPS:	Share with appropriate school system and education service center (ESC) staff; have staff encourage eligible families to apply

Overview

The Parent-Directed Special Education Services (PDSSES) program – formerly Supplemental Special Education Services (SSES) – gives a \$1,500 one-time grant to families of eligible students. Families are given access to an online account where they can use these funds to purchase educational goods and services for their students.

Eligibility has not changed; to be eligible for PDSSES, a student must:

- be currently enrolled in a Texas public school (grades Pre-K through 12th);
- receive special education services through an individualized education program (IEP); and
- have not received a PDSSES/SSES grant in the past. (PDSSES is a one-time-only grant.)

Application

NEW THIS YEAR: Parents must have a My SPEDTex account to apply for the PDSSES program. If parents do not already have a My SPEDTex account, they can go to [SPEDTEX.ORG](https://spedtex.org) and click “Create Account/Sign In” to create an account. **The PDSSES Application for the 2024-2025 school year will open on February 3, 2025, at 8:00 AM CST and will close on March 31, 2025, at 5:00 PM CST.**

After the application opens, parents should log in to their My SPEDTex account and click the “PDSSES Parent Portal” button to begin the application process. For more information about the application process, [view this one-page resource](#). Schools can also use the resources available on the [PDSSES Outreach Materials webpage](#) to assist in informing the parents of eligible students of the application process and window.

Requirements

[19 TAC §102.1601\(j\)](#) requires ARD committees to inform parents who have not already received funds, that their student is eligible for the PDSSES grant. In addition to informing parents at their student's next annual ARD committee meeting, TEA recommends informing eligible families prior to the application window of when and how to apply. To facilitate this, all directors of special education received a list of eligible students who have not yet received a PDSSES account through an emailed ShareFile link on October 25, 2024. This is still the most updated information available.

Program Support

- For resources and guidance about the PDSSES program, please visit the [PDSSES Website](#).
- For questions about the PDSSES program, please view the [PDSSES FAQs](#).
- For additional questions or help, please email PDSSEhelp@region10.org or call SPEDTex at 855-773-3839.