



## Launch of Student & Private School Applications for the IEA Program

The [applications for students and private schools](#) to participate in the Individualized Education Account (IEA) Program are now live. The official press release may be found [here](#). The 2016-17 IEA Parent Handbook and IEA Provider Handbook have been posted on the IEA webpage, along with updated information for parents, school districts, private schools, and other provider groups about the IEA Program.

The decision to enroll a student in the IEA Program should not be taken lightly. Before applying, parents should read the [IEA Parent Handbook](#) for a comprehensive explanation of the rights parents and students must waive and the responsibilities they must accept once the student enrolls in the IEA Program. Applications for students to participate in the IEA Program for the Jan. 1–July 31, 2017, term are due **by Oct. 14**. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply.

Private school principals should read the [IEA Provider Handbook](#) before submitting an application. Applications for private schools to participate in the IEA Program are due **by Nov. 1** for the Jan. 1, 2017, IEA term, but applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. [Click here](#) for more information and to apply. The list of participating schools will be posted once the department has approved at least one school and will be updated on a weekly basis.

Once a child is accepted to the IEA Program, the parents may be interested in enrolling the student in a specific private school. If the school is not currently approved for participation in the IEA Program, parents may contact the school to inquire whether or not the school qualifies to participate in the IEA Program and if the school intends to submit an application. Parents may send their children to an unapproved school, but once enrolled, they may not use IEA funds to pay for tuition, fees, and/or required textbooks, but can use IEA funds for any of the other approved expenses (e.g., educational therapy). The rules for the IEA Program are still in the approval process and the **department will not be able to approve or deny any applications until the rules are fully approved (the department anticipates the rules will be approved in October). Once the rules**



**are approved, parents/school principals will be notified via email if their application is approved, denied, and/or incomplete.**

We sincerely thank all the individuals who have contributed to the development of the IEA Program, especially the members of the IEA External Advisory Group, IEA Parent Focus Group, and the State Board of Education staff and members. The department is committed to an ongoing review of the program and look forward to continuing to engage with stakeholders throughout the program's implementation.

If you have any questions, please contact the IEA team: (615) 253-3781  
or [IEA.Questions@tn.gov](mailto:IEA.Questions@tn.gov).

Have a question? Ask us!  
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