Getting Started with an Empowerment Scholarship Account

Please track your progress through the process below. While we are available to help answer your questions, Smart Schools is not notified when a parent or guardian applies, gets approval, or receives ESA funding for their student.

1

Apply for an ESA
Once you've decided an ESA is right for your student, the first step is to apply! Visit the Arizona Dept. of Education website to begin the application process and view eligibility requirements.

2

Check your application status
Your application will be processed within 30 days, though most take less than two weeks. Check your application status here.

3

Send Smart Schools proof of your approval
After your application has been approved, please let your Smart Schools Academic Advisor know! A simple screenshot will do. We will then email you an invoice, which you will need in Step 5.

4

Log into your student's ClassWallet account
ClassWallet is the ESA Program's payment platform. It is how you will make purchases and spend your student's ESA funds. After approval, you will receive an email once your student's ClassWallet account has been set up and funded. Log into your account here. For assistance, follow the steps in this New ESA Parent Information document.

5

Make a tuition payment
You are now able to make tuition payments with ESA funds! We encourage you to follow directions listed in the New ESA Parent Information document for "Making Purchases" and "Pay Schools and Service Providers." You can also watch this video tutorial.
- Smart Schools is a registered vendor through ClassWallet, so you will be able to search for and select us.
- After selecting Smart Schools, you will need to upload the invoice we sent you in Step 3.