



Ohio Revised Code

Section 3310.70 Afterschool child enrichment educational savings account.

Effective: September 30, 2021

Legislation: House Bill 110 - 134th General Assembly

(A) A student is an "eligible student" for purposes of this section if the student is at least six but no more than eighteen years old and the student's family income is at or below three hundred per cent of the federal poverty guidelines, as defined in section 5101.46 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) There is hereby established the afterschool child enrichment (ACE) educational savings account program. Not later than thirty days after the effective date of this section, the department of education shall adopt emergency rules under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code that prescribe procedures for the establishment of these accounts for fiscal years 2022 and 2023 upon the request of the parent or guardian of an eligible student enrolled in a public or nonpublic school or an eligible student who has been excused from the compulsory attendance law for the purpose of home instruction under section 3321.04 of the Revised Code. Accounts shall be established on a first-come, first-served basis according to the availability of funds appropriated for purposes of this section.

(2) Not later than one hundred twenty days after the effective date of this section, the department shall create an online form for parents and guardians to request the establishment of an account under this section.

(C)(1) The department shall contract with a vendor for purposes of administering the provisions of this section and may contract with the treasurer of state for technical assistance. In selecting a vendor, the department shall give preference to those vendors who use a smart phone application that is free for parents or guardians to use, is capable of scanning receipts, allows users to provide program feedback, and includes customer service contact information for parents and guardians who experience technical issues with the application. For fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2023, the department shall pay the vendor not more than three per cent of the amount appropriated for that fiscal year for purposes of this section.

(2) The vendor selected by the department under division (C)(2) of this section shall do both of the



following:

(a) Monitor how accounts are used by parents or guardians and recoup moneys that are used for purposes that are not authorized by this section as determined by the vendor;

(b) Provide the department with a comprehensive list of purchases made with accounts.

(3) At no time shall the vendor authorize parents or guardians to use moneys for purposes that are not authorized by this section as determined by the vendor. If the vendor authorizes parents or guardians to use moneys for a specified purpose and later determines that purpose is not authorized by this section, the vendor may recoup that money.

(D)(1) If a parent or guardian makes a request under division (B) of this section during fiscal year 2022, five hundred dollars shall be credited to the account established pursuant to the parent's or guardian's request within fourteen days of the parent's or guardian's request, and that amount shall be disbursed upon request to the parent or guardian not later than June 30, 2022, for use in accordance with division (E) of this section.

(2) If a parent or guardian makes a request under division (B) of this section during fiscal year 2023, five hundred dollars shall be credited to the account established pursuant to the parent's or guardian's request within fourteen days of the parent's or guardian's request, and that amount shall be disbursed upon request to the parent or guardian not later than June 30, 2023, for use in accordance with division (E) of this section.

(E) Subject to division (F) of this section, moneys credited to an education savings account established under division (B) of this section shall be used by an eligible student's parent or guardian for any of the following purposes, whether secular or nonsecular:

(1) Before- or after-school educational programs;

(2) Day camps, including camps for academics, music, and arts;

(3) Tuition at learning extension centers;



(4) Tuition for learning pods;

(5) If the student has been excused from the compulsory attendance law for the purpose of home instruction under section 3321.04 of the Revised Code, purchase of curriculum and materials;

(6) Educational, learning, or study skills services;

(7) Field trips to historical landmarks, museums, science centers, and theaters, including admission, exhibit, and program fees;

(8) Language classes;

(9) Instrument lessons;

(10) Tutoring.

(F) At no time shall moneys credited to an account established under division (B) of this section be used for the purchase of electronic devices.

(G) The department shall make available to parents and guardians a list of the purposes for which moneys credited to an account established under division (B) of this section may be spent in accordance with division (E) of this section.

(H) Not later than December 31, 2023, the department shall prepare a report regarding the administration of this section, including feedback from a random sampling of parents and guardians who participate in the program for fiscal year 2022, fiscal year 2023, or both and submit the report to the general assembly in accordance with section 101.68 of the Revised Code.