



**THE DISTRICT**  
SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

January 19, 2021

Dear Parent,

We are writing this letter to inform you of Supplemental Special Education Services (SSES) provided by the Texas Education Agency. SSES provides on-line accounts for eligible parents/caregivers of students with significant and complex disabilities impacted by school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible families of students who meet the criteria can apply for the on-line account to obtain special education resources, supplies and/or services. SSES credits of up to \$1,500 per student, supplement the services/supports provided by the school for the student.

Review the Program Overview and Eligibility Requirements to verify if your student meets the eligibility criteria here:

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/special-student-populations/special-education/sses-student-application-process-and-criteria>

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/special-student-populations/special-education/sses-frequently-asked-questions-faqs>

If you feel that your student meets the eligibility criteria, an application is submitted online. The steps to apply for SSES are here:

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/special-student-populations/special-education/sses-how-to-apply>

After completing the application, families will be notified within 30 business days if the student has been approved, placed on a waiting list or does not qualify. If you have any questions, please contact the Special Education Department at 434-0900.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diana Otero".

Dr. Diana Otero  
Special Education Director

# Overview of Supplemental Special Education Services (SSES)



Supplemental Special Education Services (SSES) are **on-line accounts** for eligible parents/caregivers of students with significant and complex disabilities that have been impacted by COVID-19 school closures.

Families of students with eligible disabilities can use the on-line accounts to **obtain special educational resources and supplies and/or services such as additional speech therapy or other specific services**. SSES credits are up to **\$1,500 per student** to be used to supplement what otherwise happens in school to help students continue to make educational progress.

**Families can receive up to \$1,500 per student to purchase goods and services.**



## What is SSES?

An online account that families can use to obtain goods and services up to the dollar value in the account which will supplement and bolster services a child is already receiving in school.



## Who Qualifies?

The SSES program is for students with significant cognitive and complex disabilities:

- All students must have been enrolled in a Texas public school in the 2019-2020 school year and be currently enrolled in the 2020-2021 school year.
- **Grades K-2:** A combination of the student's primary disability and their educational setting will determine qualification.
- **Grades 3-12:** Students who qualify for the STAAR ALT II assessment.

For more specific information on criteria visit [tea.texas.gov/SSES](http://tea.texas.gov/SSES).



## What can Families Purchase?

Families can purchase resources and supplies or services for their students, items such as:

- Tutoring in all subjects
- Educationally related services (OT, PT, BCBA, SLP)
- Textbook, curriculum, or other instructional materials
- Computer hardware, software, or other technological devices that are used for educational needs