New Directors Monthly Update: July 2019

Non-Ed Funds
(Non-Educational Community-Based Support Services)

The state of Texas provides state funding to assist families of students with disabilities* who are either at risk of being placed in a residential facility primarily for educational purposes, or were placed in a residential facility primarily for educational purposes and are returning home from the residential facility.

The intent of state legislation is for LEAs to provide services that are not allowable purchases from education funds, to help families of this population care for the student, and to enable families to better cope with having an individual with a disability at home.

*Students with disabilities are students with an IEP (Individualized Education Program);
(Non-Ed funds are not applicable to students with disabilities with only a Section 504 accommodations plan)

Who Can Apply for Non-Ed Funds?

The LEA (local educational agency, which includes ISDs and Open-Enrollment Charter Schools) may submit an application to their ESC to request Non-Ed funds.

This is optional.

If a parent wishes to access Non-Ed services, the parent may contact their child’s school and request a meeting to discuss the need for Non-Ed services.

The Non-Ed application can only be initiated and completed by the LEA. The application process requires collaboration between the LEA, parent(s), and the Community Resource Coordination Group (CRCG) that services the area in which the student resides.

Which Services are Allowable with Non-Ed Funds?

Services provided with Non-Ed funds must be non-educational in nature and must not be used for services that are paid with educational funds. (All special education and related services allowable by IDEA-B in the implementation of a child’s IEP are not allowable expenditures with Non-Ed funds.)

Typically, respite care and attendant care are the types of services provided for the family with Non-Ed funds.

Services provided with Non-Ed funds are not intended to be intensive or long-term, but rather, periodic and short-term.

- **Respite Care** provides relief to parents and/or family with intermittent, short-term care (e.g. weekends, school holidays). Regularly scheduled periods of respite care over an extended period of time are not allowable. This service should be periodic and short-term.
• **Attendant Care** provides occasional outside assistance to parents and families. These services should be provided to normalize routine family activities, including hours when families must sleep. **Attendant care is not allowable for baby-sitting** **or to replace day/night care services.** Regularly scheduled periods of attendant care over an extended period of time are not allowable. This service should be periodic and short-term.

**Babysitting is not allowable.** This includes attendant care when no family member is available or caring for a child while the parent is at work.

For a complete list of allowable and unallowable expenditures, review the Allowable Expenditures chart located on the ESC-20 webpage: [Non-Educational Community-Based Support Services](#). Then select the toggle titled “Allowable Expenditures and FAQ”.

Please note: The LEA must **not** make payments directly to the family, but instead, must make payments for allowable, approved Non-Ed services directly to the service provider.

**Process for Submitting a Non-Ed Application**

The Non-Ed application must be completed by LEA personnel in collaboration with parent(s) and community agencies or service providers.

• A planning meeting to discuss options for Non-Ed services should include the following:
  - LEA staff knowledgeable about the student and other agencies’ responsibilities, and
  - Representatives from the local Mental Health Agency (MHA) or Community Resource Coordination Group (CRCG), or other potential service providers, and
  - Parent(s) and/or the adult student

Please note: The student’s ARD (Admission, Review and Dismissal) committee may **not** serve as this planning group and should **not** make the decision regarding Non-Ed services.

• The Non-Ed application must have the signatures of the following individuals prior to submission to ESC-20:
  - Superintendent or Chief Executive Officer (CEO), or designee of the LEA
  - CRCG Chairperson or designee of the CRCG that services the county in which the student resides

• Mail or hand-deliver the application(s) by the deadline established by ESC-20 to:
  
  Attn: Denise Dusek
  
  Education Service Center, Region 20
  
  1314 Hines Avenue
  
  San Antonio, TX 78208

Please **do not** send the application(s) by email or fax, due to student privacy reasons.
Deadlines for 2019-2020

- If you are interested in a Non-Ed award for the 2019-2020 school year, send an email to Denise Dusek at denise.dusek@esc20.net by August 31, 2019 with an estimate of the amount you will be requesting.

  For privacy reasons, please do not include student names in the email.

- By September 30, 2019, please submit the completed, signed application(s) to ESC-20 by mail or hand delivery.

  For privacy reasons, please do not send the application(s) by email or fax.

- If you miss the 9/30/19 deadline, contact Denise Dusek at 210-370-5378 or email denise.dusek@esc20.net to inquire if funds are still available.

Additional Information and Resources

- ESC-20 webpage:
  Non-educational Community-Based Support Services

- TEA webpage:
  Non-educational Community-Based Support Services
  https://tea.texas.gov/Academics/Special_Student_Populations/Special_Education/Non-educational_Community-Based_Support_Services/

- Texas Education Code (TEC) §29.013
  https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/ED/htm/ED.29.htm#29.013

- Community Resource Coordination Groups
  https://crcg.hhs.texas.gov/