

## **R7-2-1506. Contract Renewal**

A. A parent is eligible to renew an ESA if:

1. Pursuant to R7-2-1508, the parent submitted expenses and documentation or submitted quarterly attestations;
2. If required, the Department approved expenses pursuant to R7-2-1508;
3. The parent spent monies to provide an education in at least reading, grammar, mathematics, social studies, and science for the contract year pursuant to R7-2-1505(A)(1); and
4. The parent does not owe the Department monies for disallowed expenses. A parent remains eligible to renew an ESA if the parent has an unresolved appeal regarding a disallowed expense.

B. A student with a disability as defined in A.R.S. § 15-2401(7)(a)(i), (ii), or (iii), as determined by a school district or by an independent third party under A.R.S. § 15-2403(I), may continue on the Program until the end of the school year in which the student reaches the age of 22, if the student or the parent provides documentation to the Department that demonstrates the student has not finished high school.

C. A parent shall renew ESAs on an annual basis as follows:

1. The Department shall provide renewal contracts on or before May 1 to each parent who meets R7-2-1506(A) of this Section;
2. Each parent shall submit the renewal contract to the Department on or before June 30; and
3. Within 30 days of receipt, the Department shall notify each parent of the renewal of the contract. The Department may provide notification through an online portal.

D. If a parent does not submit a renewal contract pursuant to R7-2-1506(C), the Department shall temporarily close the account and cease funding to the ESA until the parent submits the appropriate signed renewal contract. During the temporary closure, funding shall remain in the account until the parent signs the appropriate renewal contract in a format provided by the Department or the Department closes the ESA pursuant to R7-2-1506(E).

E. After an ESA has been temporarily closed for non-renewal pursuant to R7-2-1506(D), a parent may submit the appropriate signed renewal contract in a format provided by the Department to reactivate the ESA. If a parent does not submit a renewal contract for a period of three academic years, the Department shall provide notice through certified mail, email and telephone, if applicable, that the ESA will be closed. To renew the ESA, the parent shall submit a renewal contract within 60 days of receipt of the notification. If the parent does not submit a

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renewal contract within 60 days, the Department shall close the ESA and return any remaining monies in the ESA to the state general fund. Notwithstanding R7-2-1506(C)(1) and (2), a parent may submit the appropriate signed renewal contract between July 1 and June 30 for the purposes of this subsection.

F. Notwithstanding R7-2-1506(E), on the qualified student's graduation from a postsecondary institution or after any period of four consecutive years after high school graduation in which the student is not enrolled in an eligible postsecondary institution, but not before this time as long as the account holder continues using a portion of account monies for eligible expenses each year and is in good standing, the qualified student's Arizona empowerment scholarship account shall be closed and any remaining monies shall be returned to the state general fund.

G. Pursuant to R7-2-1511, a parent whose contract was not renewed by the Department may file a written request for a hearing within 30 days after being served the notice of the non-renewal.

H. At the written request of a parent, the Department shall extend the renewal contract timeframe for up to 30 days from the deadline prescribed in this Section if the parent demonstrates hardship, including an act of God or similar circumstance that prevented the parent from responding by the deadline.