

prenda

Texas TEFA Program

Details

How to use state funding to pay for
a child's microschool experience

What is the Texas Education Freedom Accounts program?

The **Texas Education Freedom Accounts (TEFA) program** provides parents with direct access to their child's education funds, enabling them to choose the learning environment and resources that best suit their child's needs. The program is overseen by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts. Scholarship funds are managed by a program manager. Odyssey will be managing the TEFA program. Prenda will work with the Comptroller and Odyssey to provide the Prenda experience to students in Texas.

TEFA funds can be used to pay for a student's microschool experience, including paying the student's quarterly Prenda invoices.

What is Prenda's relationship with TEFA?

Prenda is in the process of becoming an approved private school listed with Odyssey. This means that students who participate in a Prenda microschool are eligible to receive the full private school funding amount (\$10,800) instead of the \$2,000 available for students who are home educating.

Prenda makes it easy for guides to set up and operate a microschool that can accept TEFA funds. Prenda assists guides with many financial administrative tasks, such as private school approval and generating parent invoices. This enables guides to start a microschool quickly, earn income, and empower learners.

Does signing a student up with Prenda guarantee that they will get TEFA funding?

No. **Applying for and receiving TEFA funding happens through the Comptroller and Odyssey and is a separate process from enrolling with Prenda.** Signing a student up for Prenda does not guarantee a student's ability to secure TEFA funds. Once approved as a private school, Prenda will have no direct influence on a family's ability to receive a TEFA scholarship.



Who is eligible for the TEFA program?

The TEFA program is available to **all Texas students in grades kindergarten through twelve**. The legislature has allotted \$1 billion to the program, which should provide approximately 90,000 scholarships available for the 2026–2027 school year. If applications exceed availability, scholarships will be awarded via a lottery system in order of prioritization categories established in the program. Those prioritization categories are:

- Siblings of children already in the program (after the first round of selections).
- Children with a disability who are members of a household with income at or below 500 percent of the **federal poverty level** (FPL).
- Children from households at or below 200 percent FPL.
- Children from households above 200 percent and below 500 percent FPL.
- Children from households at or above 500 percent FPL, prioritized by children who were enrolled in a Texas public school district or open-enrollment charter school for at least 90 percent of the preceding school year, according to the TEA. No more than 20 percent of total program funds may be spent on this category in a given school year.

How do I apply for the TEFA program?

The TEFA program will open for applications on **February 4, 2026** and close on **March 17, 2026**. All applications must be submitted within that window for consideration for the 2026–2027 school year.



Step 1: Create an Odyssey Account

After clicking [“Apply Now” on the TEFA site](#), the legal parent or guardian of the student will need to sign up for a Odyssey account to apply for an TEFA scholarship. You’ll need to create a parent account and select the Texas Education Freedom Account program option when submitting an application.

You’ll need to add some personal information for yourself along with proof of identity.

Step 2: Complete the Application

Add information to student profiles for all students who will be applying for the scholarship. Then, fill out the simple application form for each applying student. After submission, you will receive a confirmation email along with updates on your application status.

During the application process you’ll be asked to select the educational setting for your student. If planning to attend a Prenda microschool, be sure to select "Private School". Otherwise, your student will be considered a homeschool student and be ineligible to receive the full scholarship award amount.

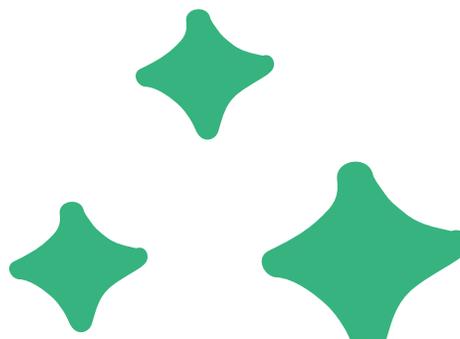
Step 3: Access Your Student’s TEFA Funds in Odyssey

Once your student is approved, you will receive information from Odyssey with instructions on how to set up your student’s TEFA account on the platform. Odyssey is the platform you will use to access your funds, including paying your Prenda invoices.

Step 4: Wait for funds in ClassWallet

After your student has been approved and awarded the scholarship, your student’s account will be funded on the following schedule:

- August 2026
- October 1, 2026
- April 1, 2027



How much funding will students receive?

Private school students (like those enrolled in a Prenda microschool) will receive 85% of the statewide funding per student. This is estimated at approximately \$10,800 per student.

Students with disabilities who have an individualized education plan (IEP) on file with their school district may receive more in funding, depending on their IEP, up to \$30,000 per year.

Home-schooled students will receive up to \$2,000 per year.

What if TEFA funds do not cover the total fee on a child's Prenda invoice?

Most families can pay their entire Prenda invoice with state funds. However, if the invoiced amount is higher than the amount of TEFA Scholarship funding a student receives, then the student's family is responsible for paying the difference out of pocket. Prenda encourages guides to take TEFA Scholarship funding amounts into consideration when setting their guide fee.

What if a student does not receive the TEFA scholarship?

Families whose students do not receive the TEFA scholarship can still participate in a Prenda microschool. In those cases, families will be responsible for paying their entire Prenda invoice with their personal funds.



How often does Prenda invoice families and how often are Prenda guides paid?

Prenda invoices students quarterly.

Prenda pays guides quarterly after each student's invoice is paid in full.

Families are expected and encouraged to pay their quarterly Prenda invoices through Odyssey as soon as they have received their quarterly invoices so that their child's guide may be paid without delay.

Questions

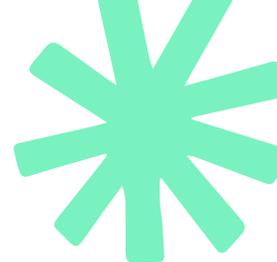
Please reach out to us at <https://www.prenda.com/contact>.

We'd love to support you every step of the way in using TEFA funds for your Prenda microschool experience!

TEFA Resources

- [How to Apply for TEFA Prenda Help Article](#)
- [Texas Education Freedom Accounts Website](#)
- [Texas Education Freedom Accounts FAQ's](#)
- [TEFA Parent/Guardian Mailing List](#)
- [About the TEFA Program Flyer](#)





Top Tips for Success

1. Start Early

Complete the application as soon as it becomes available

2. Complete Documentation Carefully

- Submit complete and accurate documents with the initial TEFA application to avoid delays.
- Include front and back color images of all documentation, and ensure the adult's name is listed on proof of residency and any income verification documentation

3. Await Award Notification

Promptly respond to any requests for additional documents to prevent unnecessary delays in the processing timeline.

4. Understand Funding Schedule

Familiarize yourself with the funding schedule.

5. Utilize Odyssey Efficiently

- Learn how to navigate and use Odyssey for managing TEFA funds.
- Pay Prenda invoices promptly through Odyssey once TEFA funding is received.

6. Communicate with Prenda

Maintain open communication with Prenda to address any concerns or questions about the TEFA funding process.

