

141.518 Account-granting organization system of payment to education service providers -- Payments to an education opportunity account -- Approval of education service providers.

- (1) (a) Each AGO shall implement a commercially viable, cost-effective, and parent-friendly system for payment of services from EOAs to education service providers.
- (b) The AGO shall not adopt a system that relies exclusively on requiring parents to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses, but shall provide maximum flexibility to parents by facilitating direct payments to education service providers or requests for preapproval of and reimbursements for qualifying expenses.
- (c) An AGO may contract with private financial management firms or other organizations to develop the payment system.
- (2) An AGO may contract with private financial management firms or other organizations to maintain records and process transactions of the EOAs.
- (3) If funding is available, an AGO shall continue making payments into an EOA until:
 - (a) The parent does not renew the EOA;
 - (b) The AGO determines that the EOA student's family income has increased above two hundred fifty percent (250%) of the amount of household income necessary to establish eligibility for reduced-price meals based on size of household as determined annually by the United States Department of Agriculture applicable to the Commonwealth, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. secs. 1751 to 1789;
 - (c) The AGO determines that there was substantial misuse of the funds in the EOA; or
 - (d) The EOA student receives a high school diploma or equivalency certificate.
- (4) Each AGO shall establish a process for approving education service providers.
- (5) An AGO may approve education service providers on their own initiative, at the request of parents, or upon request from prospective education service providers.

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