



FREE TUTORING FOR ELIGIBLE FAMILIES!

Choosing a Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Provider

SES offers families a chance to get their children extra academic help and individual instruction they need. Generally, your child is eligible for SES if he/she receives free or reduced-price meals and attends a Title I school that has been designated for School Improvement Years 2 and beyond. Your school district is required to contact you to let you know that your child is eligible for SES and provide you with information about providers in your area.

Listed below are questions that parents frequently ask about (SES).

When and where will the tutoring take place?

Students may receive the Supplemental Educational Services anytime outside the school day. Most providers offer tutoring after school in the student's school, home, or community center.

How often and for how many hours in total will your child be tutored?

This can vary from everyday to a few days a week. The total number of sessions that your child will receive depends on the amount of money the federal government has allotted for each eligible child in your school district and the amount the provider charges the school district.

What type of instruction will the tutor use (small group, one-on-one, or the computer)?

Providers offer different types of instruction. Some providers tutor small groups of students, while others offer one-on-one instruction or teach through computer programs. Alabama requires that each tutor work with no more than 8 students per session.

What are the tutors' qualifications?

Tutors should have experience teaching reading and math and should be skilled in working with children who are struggling in school.

Can the tutor help if your child has disabilities or is learning English?

If your child has disabilities, be sure that the provider you choose has experience in working with those disabilities. If you find there are no providers able to serve students with disabilities in your district, your school district must provide the services. Your child's SES program may not discriminate against your child and all services provided should be consistent with your child's individual education plan (IEP) or specialized services under Section 504. Supplemental educational services are in addition to, not a substitute for, the instruction and services required under IDEA and Section 504.

If your child's first language is not English, ask whether the provider you are considering can offer services in your child's first language.

Is transportation available to and from where the tutoring will take place?

SES providers are not required to provide transportation to and from the tutoring site.

Are incentives offered by the SES provider to parents or students to choose their services?

SES providers may not offer any form of incentive to parents or students for signing up for their services.

Adapted from *SES for Families*, a online publication of the Supplemental Educational Services Quality Center, www.tutorsforkids.org

For more information, please contact your local school, school district, or Ms. Rita Fentress, Federal Programs, Alabama State Department of Education, rfentress@alsde.edu

What is the parent's role in the SES process?

Parent involvement is very important in the provision of SES.

Parents should:

- Choose a provider from the state-approved Supplemental Educational Services Provider list.
- Acquaint themselves with the provider's services, frequency and duration of service, ratio of students to tutor, tutor's qualifications, and the manner in which student progress will be measured.
- Return the Provider Selection Form to begin the SES process.
- Meet with the provider and the school representative to formulate the student's individual goals for learning and to set up timelines for monitoring progress.
- Meet with the provider and the school representative to receive information and sign a summary report at the end of the tutoring service.
- Monitor their child's attendance and ensure attendance at the supplemental services sessions.
- Communicate regularly with the provider, especially to notify the provider in advance if the child is to be absent.
- Inform the provider and the school if the child will no longer participate in SES.
- Inform the LEA immediately if they wish to change or terminate supplemental services with a provider if they are not satisfied.

For more information on SES, download a copy of the *SES Toolkit for Alabama Schools* from the Alabama State Department of Education website, www.alsde.edu, then click on Sections, Federal Programs, Publications, SES Toolkit for Alabama Schools.

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