



**DESSALINES
S.T.E.A.M. ACADEMY**
A microschool in Brockton serving Southshore

Dessalines S.T.E.A.M. Academy

Enrollment Agreement

Academic Year: 2025-2026

This Agreement is entered into by and between Dessalines STEAM Academy (“DSA”), a program under the Excellence For All STEAM School Network (“EFA”), and the undersigned parent(s) or legal guardian(s) (“Parent”) of the enrolling student(s) (“Student”). In checking the terms and conditions, the Parent acknowledges and agrees to the following contractual terms and conditions of enrollment at DSA/EFA. Dessalines S.T.E.A.M. Academy is a program operated under the fiscal and administrative umbrella of Excellence For All STEAM School Network.

EFA/DSA will make reasonable efforts to maintain the privacy and confidentiality of student records in accordance with applicable laws.

1. Purpose and Mission

We understand that Dessalines STEAM Academy exists to provide equitable and culturally responsive STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) instruction to all students. The goal of this Agreement is to establish a shared understanding of expectations between EFA/DSA and the Parent to support student’s success.

2. Tuition Obligation

Parent understands that by signing this Contract and submitting the Tuition Deposit or registration fee, they are enrolling the Student for the entire School Year (or prorated period) and become liable for the full year’s tuition and fees as liquidated damages (not a penalty). This applies to any 9-month part time program and any full time programs. Because EFA/DSA overhead costs do not decrease if a student withdraws, no refund or reduction will be made if the Student is withdrawn, absent, or involuntarily separated for any reason—including relocation, illness, or disciplinary action—unless the termination meets the requirements of Section 9 (Termination) or the organization makes an exception. Exceptions are made on a case by case basis and can only be made by the Board of Trustees. Refunds, if granted, are at the sole discretion of the Board and will be based on documented extenuating circumstances.

3. Holding Fee

Parents/guardians of full time students agree to pay a **\$500 holding fee for each child enrolled in a tuition-paying seat** to reserve their child’s enrollment in the program. Parents/guardians of Part-time students agree to pay a one-time fee to reserve their child(ren)’s seat. The due date for this payment will be communicated by EFA/DSA. For full-time families only - for program year Aug 2025 to June 2026 - this fee will be applied toward the final tuition payment for the academic year. **In the event that EFA/DSA does not operate, the holding fee for full time families/students will be fully refunded.**



4. Payment Schedule

Payments are due on the first of every month starting in August or according to the tuition payment plan. See #5.

5. Tuition Payment Plan Selection

Families and guardians understand that they should be *prepared to pay either*:

- ☐ One-time full payment due by August 1st
 - ☐ Three-installment plan with payments due on August 1st, October 1st, and February 1st
 - ☐ Monthly plan with payments due the first of each month starting in August
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6. Payment Method

All tuition payments must be submitted via our payment system.

In the event of a failed payment, the Parent agrees to resolve the issue within 5 business days. A late fee of \$25 will be applied for payments received more than 7 days past due.

7. Works, Publications, Media and Image Release

Parent/Guardians grants permission for the Student's first name, photograph, voice, image, video, and work product to be used in EFA/DSA publications including promotional materials, social media, and the website, without compensation or prior notice. Students may also be interviewed by media or external organizations at EFA/DSA, during events, or at other locations for the purpose of promoting EFA/DSA or other important matters that help market the program, fundraise, or support its mission. EFA/DSA is released from any liability arising from the use of such publications and media.

8. Parent Contact - EFA/DSA reserves the right to create a shareable parent contact list with only parent first name, last name, first name of child with grade level, and phone and/or email address. This information shall only be shared with current staff.

9. Termination Policy

EFA/DSA reserves the right to terminate enrollment at any time for reasons including, but not limited to:

- Non-payment of tuition
 - Violations of the Parent Code of Conduct (See Appendix A)
 - Behavioral issues that compromise the learning environment
 - Failure to uphold commitments described in this Agreement
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10. Transportation Acknowledgement

I acknowledge that Dessalines S.T.E.A.M Academy, part of the Excellence For All STEAM School Network, is not responsible for transportation of my child(ren).

11. Commitment to Equity & Inclusion

At EFA/DSA, we are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all learners. We do not tolerate bullying, mean behavior, or negative remarks targeting differences in learning or behavior. Comments that demean differences in behavior or learning style, such as calling a peer 'weird' or 'not normal,' will not be tolerated. Parents and guardians certify that they will teach and uphold these values with any enrolled child(ren).

12. Commitment to Family Engagement

We value parent involvement. Families are encouraged to stay engaged, join classroom learning when possible, and participate in the Parent Collaborative, which supports fundraising and decision-making. Parents/guardians of full-time students will do their best to participate in the Parent Collaborative.

13. Homeschool Acknowledgement

Dessalines S.T.E.A.M Academy operates as a parent homeschool cooperative. Parents are responsible for contacting their local school district to comply with homeschooling requirements and must relay this information to EFA/DSA. Parents and guardians acknowledge their responsibility to communicate with their child(ren)'s district. Parents and guardians will share district homeschooling requirements with EFA/DSA.

14. Force Majeure

EFA/DSA's obligations under this Agreement may be suspended due to force majeure events including fire, pandemic, hurricane, war, or other uncontrollable circumstances. No refund will be issued if operations are disrupted due to such events. EFA/DSA will resume virtually or in-person as soon as it is safe to do so.

15. Limitation of Liability and Legal Waiver

By signing this Agreement, Parent acknowledges that EFA/DSA shall not be held liable for any damages, claims, injuries, or losses of any kind, for any reason whatsoever, arising from or related to participation in EFA/DSA programming. Parent waives any and all rights to sue or bring legal action against EFA/DSA, its directors, board, Trustees, staff, or affiliates, under any circumstances.

Acknowledgment and Agreement

By checking the terms and conditions or signing this document, parents/guardians acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agree to uphold the policies and expectations outlined in this agreement. They recognize that these



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shared commitments are essential to maintaining the integrity, safety, and success of Excellence For All STEAM School Network/Dessalines STEAM Academy.

This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Any disputes arising from this Agreement shall first be attempted to be resolved through informal mediation. If necessary, the parties agree to binding arbitration in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

This contract shall be applied for the enrollment of every child enrolled by the parent/ guardian.

The parent/guardian certifies that they are the legal Guardian of the child(ren) they are enrolling.

Electronic signatures shall be considered valid and binding. Failure to return a signed agreement by the deadline may result in forfeiture of enrollment.

EFA/DSA does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, or disability in its educational programs or activities.

Appendix A:

Parent Code of Conduct



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Dessalines S.T.E.A.M Academy | Excellence For All STEAM Network
Effective Academic Year 2025–2026

As a participating parent or guardian, I agree to uphold the mission, values, and expectations of Dessalines S.T.E.A.M Academy and the Excellence For All STEAM Network (EFA/DSA). I understand that my conduct directly affects the success, safety, and well-being of the entire learning community.

1. Respectful Communication

- I will communicate respectfully with all staff, students, and fellow families in person, via email, or on digital platforms.
- I will address concerns through appropriate channels and seek resolution calmly and constructively.
- I will refrain from using threatening, aggressive, or disrespectful language or behavior under any circumstances.

2. Community Engagement

- I will make every effort to stay informed, attend key meetings, respond to communications, and contribute when possible.
- I will support my child(ren)'s participation and learning by maintaining consistency and structure at home.
- I will honor deadlines and commitments that support group coordination and planning.

3. Positive Representation

- I recognize that I represent the shared values of this community and will speak about the program honestly and constructively.
- I will not spread misinformation or make disparaging comments about participants, staff, or activities—online or in public forums.

4. Equity, Inclusion, and Anti-Bullying

- I will model and reinforce respectful behavior toward all individuals regardless of background, ability, identity, or learning style.
- I will address or report any bullying, exclusion, or harmful behavior I witness within the community.
- I will reinforce a culture of kindness and belonging among children and adults alike.

5. Conflict Resolution

- I agree to approach conflict with empathy and a problem-solving mindset.
- I will not use public shaming, intimidation, or escalation tactics to resolve issues.
- I will communicate directly with involved parties and participate in facilitated resolution if needed.

6. Academic and Behavioral Support



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- I will encourage my child(ren) to respect others, take responsibility for their actions, and meet expectations for conduct and learning.
- I will not enable dishonest behavior or undermine shared goals by doing work on behalf of my child(ren).
- I will partner with staff and facilitators to support my child(ren)'s development.

7. Safety and Responsibility

- I will follow all safety and supervision guidelines, including protocols for pickup, drop-off, and emergency procedures.
- I will not attend events or gatherings under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances.
- I will not bring weapons or dangerous items to shared spaces or gatherings.

Violations

EFA/DSA reserves the right to respond to breaches of this Code of Conduct, which may include:

- Verbal or written warnings
- Limited participation in community events or activities
- Withdrawal from the program in cases of ongoing or severe violations