K-8 TUITION ASSISTANCE LINKS

Ohio EdChoice EXPANSION Scholarship Fact Sheet:

https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Expansion/EdChoice-Expansion-Resources/FY26-Expansion-Fact-Sheet.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US

Ohio EdChoice TRADITIONAL Scholarship Fact Sheet:

https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Scholarship/EdChoice-Resources/2025-2026-EdChoice-Fact-Sheet.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US

Ohio EdChoice Scholarship Application Forms (Expansion and Traditional):

New Applicants:

https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Scholarship/EdChoice-Resources/FY26-EdChoice-Request-Form.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US

Renewing Applicants:

https://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Scholarship/EdChoice-Resources/FY26-EdChoice-Renewal-Form.pdf.aspx?lang=en-US

CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

All K-8 grants from the Catholic Education Foundation will be awarded based on the assessed financial need of the family. The assessment is processed using a third-party company (FACTS) which will examine a family's income and suggest a level of need. This grant will not exceed the amount of \$1,200 per student for tuition aid. These grants must be applied for annually and will be awarded without distinguishing between families based on religion. These grants are open to Self-pay and EdChoice Scholarship families that qualify. Families applying for financial aid consideration will need to complete an application and submit the necessary supporting documentation to FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment. The application fee is \$30 per family.

https://catholicbestchoice.org/affordability/

https://catholicbestchoice.org/catholic-education-foundation-tuition-assistance/

ST. ALBERT THE GREAT PARISH SCHOLARSHIPS:

Aid is provided on a year-to-year basis and cannot be guaranteed for more than one year. This is due to various factors, including but not limited to the number of people seeking aid, the financial health of the parish, and the overall need of the group of people applying for assistance. Preference is shown to parishioners. If you wish to be considered for aid, you must apply every year your student attends our school. The application process is completed using the FACTS Grant & AID Assessment. Applicants must apply online.

https://online.factsmgt.com/SignIn.aspx

EdChoice Scholarship Program Fact Sheet for 2025-2026

WHAT IS OHIO'S TRADITIONAL EDCHOICE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

The EdChoice Scholarship Program provides state-funded scholarships to K-12 students who meet the eligibility criteria listed below. The scholarship must be used towards tuition to attend participating private schools.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR TRADITIONAL EDCHOICE?

The following students are eligible to apply for a Traditional EdChoice Scholarship:

- Students entering grades K-12 who would be assigned to EdChoice public school buildings regardless of where they attended school the previous year;
- Those enrolled in and attending EdChoice public school buildings in their districts of residence;
- Students whose sibling received a traditional EdChoice Scholarship in the preceding year;
- Students who previously received an Autism or Jon Peterson Scholarship but no longer qualify because they no longer need special education services;
- Students who are foster children;
- Students who reside in a certified foster home;
- Students placed with a guardian, legal custodian or in kinship care;
- Students who reside in the same household as a student who was placed with a guardian, legal custodian or in kinship care for at least 45 consecutive days;
- Students who reside in the household of another for at least 45 days and but for not living there would have been homeless; or
- Students who reside in a household with a student who would have been homeless (see previous criteria) for at least 45 consecutive days.
 - Students who do not meet any of the preceding eligibility criteria are eligible for the EdChoice
- Expansion Scholarship if they meet the following criteria:
- Student does not live in the Cleveland Municipal School District; and
- Submit household income for verification.

WHO IS CONSIDERED A SIBLING?

In reviewing applications, the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce will use the definition from section 3310.033 of the Ohio Revised Code:

"Sibling" means any of the following:

- a) A brother, half-brother, sister, or half-sister by birth, marriage, or adoption;
- b) A cousin by birth, marriage, or adoption who is residing in the same household;



- c) A foster child who is residing in the same household, including a child who is subsequently adopted by the child's foster family;
- d) A child residing in the same household who is placed with a guardian or legal custodian;
- e) A child who is residing in the same household and is being cared for by a kinship caregiver;
- f) Any other child under eighteen years of age who has resided in the same household for at least forty-five consecutive days within the last calendar year.

WHEN SHOULD A FAMILY APPLY?

The application period for the Traditional EdChoice Scholarship program opens February 1st, 2025, and will remain open through June 30th, 2026. Families must complete the enrollment/admission process at the participating private school for fall 2025. Upon enrollment acceptance at the participating private school, families may choose to complete the application for an EdChoice Scholarship, which will be submitted by the private school through the secure online application system.

WHAT INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP?

Parents will need to provide the private school with a copy of the student's birth certificate, a copy of current proof of address less than 90 days old and the Scholarship Request Form to apply for the scholarship. Additional information such as notarized letter, custody documentation or foster care information may be needed for determining student eligibility for a scholarship.

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP?

The EdChoice Scholarship amount is currently \$6,166 for grades K-8 and \$8,408 for grades 9-12. EdChoice will pay either the scholarship amount or the private school's actual tuition amount, whichever is less.

NOTE: Any application submitted after October 14th, 2025, will be awarded at a prorated amount based on how much of the school year remains after the date of the student's enrollment in the private school.

WILL PARENTS/GUARDIANS HAVE TO PAY ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY?

The scholarship amount can only be used towards tuition. Parents and/or guardians may still have to pay registration fees, material fees and other similar types of fees. If the private school's tuition is higher than the EdChoice Scholarship amount and the family does not qualify for low-income status (at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines), the family may have to pay the difference. However, families who qualify for low-income status do not have to pay any tuition that is not covered by the scholarship. In order for the family to be considered for the low-Income status, the family must submit their household income annually to the Department of Education and Workforce.



HOW WILL PARENTS/GUARDIANS BE NOTIFIED OF THE STATUS OF THE APPLICATION?

The application information will be reviewed within 14 days. The private school will be notified within 14 days if errors or deficiencies have been identified. Please contact your private school regarding any questions about the application. Awarding of scholarships will be done periodically and an award letter and acceptance form are mailed to the parents/guardian. Parents/Guardians can monitor their student's application(s) through the online parent portal.

CAN THE EDCHOICE SCHOLARSHIP BE RENEWED?

Yes, the scholarship can be renewed each year through grade 12 as long as the student:

- Does not move to another public school district, unless the student would be assigned to an EdChoice designated public school in the student's new district (applicable only to students who were initially awarded a scholarship based on an EdChoice designated building);
- 2. Takes all required assessments; and
- 3. Does not have more than 20 unexcused absences for the school year.

Parents renewing their child's scholarship must provide a copy of current proof of address less than 90 days old and the Scholarship Renewal Form.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Find more information about <u>EdChoice</u> on the Department's website or contact <u>edchoice@education.ohio.gov</u>.

The Cleveland Scholarship and Tutoring Program is still available for residents of the Cleveland Municipal School District. Find more information about the <u>Cleveland program</u> on the Department's website.

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, gender, nationality, age, disability, or ethnic background. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce is an <u>equal opportunity employer</u> and provider of <u>ADA services</u>. The Department's <u>Notice of Non-Discrimination</u> applies to all programs and activities.

View the Department's <u>Disability Discrimination Policy</u> and <u>Discrimination Policy Grievance</u>

<u>Procedure</u>. For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit <u>ocrcas.ed.gov/contact-ocr</u> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.



EdChoice Expansion Scholarship Program Fact Sheet for 2025-2026

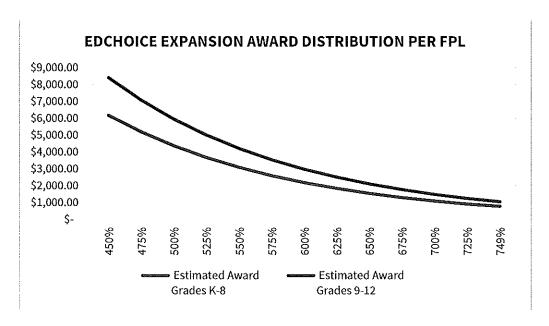
WHAT IS OHIO'S EDCHOICE EXPANSION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

The EdChoice Expansion Scholarship Program provides state-funded scholarships to children in kindergarten through twelfth grade who reside in Ohio based on household income level. The scholarship must be used towards tuition to attend participating private schools.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR EDCHOICE EXPANSION?

EdChoice Expansion is an income-based program available to students in kindergarten through twelfth grade who do not qualify for the Cleveland Scholarship program.

Scholarships for EdChoice Expansion are awarded based on a family's household income. If a family's household income is at or below 450 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, they will be awarded the maximum scholarship amount. If a family's household income is at or above 451 percent of the Federal Poverty Level, the student's scholarship award is reduced. The chart below reflects the award distribution at each Federal Poverty Level percentage.



WHEN SHOULD A FAMILY APPLY?

The application period for the **EdChoice Expansion Scholarship** program opens February 1st, 2025, and will remain open through June 30th, 2026. Families must complete the enrollment/admission process at the participating private school for fall 2025. Upon enrollment acceptance at the participating private school, families may choose to complete the application for an EdChoice Scholarship, which will be submitted by the private school through the secure online application system.



WHAT INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP?

Parents will need to provide the private school with a copy of the student's birth certificate, a copy of current proof of address less than 90 days old and the Scholarship Request Form to apply for the scholarship. Additional information such as notarized letter, custody documentation or foster care information may be needed for determining student eligibility for a scholarship.

NOTE: In addition to applying with the school, new EdChoice Expansion applicants will need to complete the income verification process, unless the family has previous household income on file. Income verification is optional for renewal applications in the EdChoice Expansion Scholarship program. Renewing families do not need to complete a new income verification each year. If your annual household income or household size has changed, families may submit a new income verification application for the next school year. Families applying for low-income status must submit new household income annually. Household Income will not be recalculated after the review has been completed.

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP?

The maximum scholarship for students in grades K-8 is currently \$6,166 and \$8,408 for grades 9-12. The amount each student receives varies based on the household income. The estimated award amounts can be found on the Department's website.

NOTE: Any application submitted after October 14th, 2025, will be awarded at a prorated amount based on how much of the school year remains after the date of the student's enrollment in the private school.

WILL PARENTS/GUARDIANS HAVE TO PAY ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY?

The scholarship amount can only be used towards tuition. Parents and/or guardians may still have to pay registration fees, material fees and other similar types of fees. If the private school's tuition is higher than the EdChoice Scholarship amount and the family does not qualify for low-income status (at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines), the family may have to pay the difference. However, families who qualify for low-income status do not have to pay any tuition that is not covered by the scholarship. In order for the family to be considered for the low-Income status, the family must submit their household income annually to the Department of Education and Workforce.

HOW WILL PARENTS/GUARDIANS BE NOTIFIED OF THE STATUS OF THE APPLICATION?

The application information will be reviewed within 14 days. The private school will be notified within 14 days if errors or deficiencies have been identified. Please contact your private school regarding any questions about the application. Awarding of scholarships will be done periodically and an award letter and acceptance form are mailed to the parents/guardian. Parents/Guardians can monitor their student's application(s) through the online parent portal.



CAN THE EDCHOICE EXPANSION SCHOLARSHIP BE RENEWED?

Yes, the scholarship can be renewed each year through grade 12 as long as the student:

- 1. Takes all required assessments;
- 2. Does not have more than 20 unexcused absences for the school year; and
- 3. Remains a resident of Ohio.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

<u>Find more information</u> about EdChoice Expansion on the Department's website or contact <u>edchoice@education.ohio.gov</u>.

The Cleveland Scholarship and Tutoring Program is still available for residents of the Cleveland Municipal School District. <u>Find more information</u> about the Cleveland program on the Department's website.

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View the Department's <u>Disability Discrimination Policy</u> and <u>Discrimination Policy Grievance Procedure</u>. For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit <u>ocrcas.ed.gov/contact-ocr</u> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

