

SACRED HEART OF JESUS SCHOOL EDCHOICE EXPANSION PROVIDER Are You Eligible?

WHEN WILL EDCHOICE APPLICATIONS BE ACCEPTED?

The application period begins Feb. 1, 2017. Families must contact the participating private school/provider and complete the enrollment/admission process for that school. Once students have been accepted for enrollment at a participating private school/provider for fall 2017, they can then apply for an EdChoice Scholarship through the participating private school/provider. Participating private schools/providers can enter scholarship applications for students through the secure online application system.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR EDCHOICE?

- Student is eligible to enter kindergarten, first grade, second, third, or fourth grade for fall 2017;
- Student does not live in the Cleveland Municipal School District; and
- Family household income is at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines.

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP?

The EdChoice scholarship amount is currently \$4650 for grades K-8 and \$6000 for grades 9-12. EdChoice will pay either the scholarship amount or the private school's actual tuition amount, whichever is less.

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

The scholarship amount covers tuition ONLY. Parents and guardians still may have to pay registration fees, material fees and other similar types of fees. Families who qualify for low income status do not have to pay any tuition that is not covered by the scholarship. However, if the private school's tuition is higher than the EdChoice Scholarship amount and if the family does not qualify for low income status, the family may have to pay the difference.

CAN THE EDCHOICE SCHOLARSHIP BE RENEWED?

Yes, the scholarship can be renewed each year through grade 12 as long as the student: 1. Continues living in Ohio and meeting the income requirements; 2. Takes all required state achievement tests; and 3. Does not have more than 20 unexcused absences for the school year

SHOULD PARENTS AND STUDENTS APPLY FOR AN EDCHOICE SCHOLARSHIP FIRST OR APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO A PRIVATE SCHOOL FIRST?

Parents and students should first apply for admission at the participating private school. Once the student has been accepted for enrollment at the private school/ provider, the private school/provider will submit a scholarship application for the student through the secure online application system.

WHAT INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP?

Parents must provide the private school/provider with a copy of the student's birth certificate, a copy of current proof of address and the Scholarship Request Form to apply for the scholarship. Parents renewing their child's scholarship must provide a copy of current proof of address and the Scholarship Renewal Form.

ARE FAMILIES REQUIRED TO HAVE THEIR INCOME VERIFIED TO APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP?

Yes. The expansion scholarship is income-based. Families applying for the EdChoice "expansion" scholarship MUST have their income verified; it is not optional. NOTE: Families cannot qualify for low-income status unless they have their income verified by the EdChoice Scholarship Program.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Visit the EdChoice Web page at education.ohio.gov/edchoice or send email to edchoice@education.ohio.gov. The Cleveland Scholarship and Tutoring Program is still available for residents of the Cleveland Municipal School District. For more information about the Cleveland program, please visit: <http://cstp.education.ohio.gov/>.

2017-2018 Federal Poverty Guidelines

Source: Federal Register, Vol. 82, No. 19, January 31, 2017, pp. 8831-8832.

Number in Family/ Household	Gross Annual Amount (200%)
1	\$24,120
2	\$32,480
3	\$40,840
4	\$49,200
5	\$57,560
6	\$65,920
7	\$74,280
8	\$82,640
For each additional person add:	\$8,360

- Based on the number of people in your household, if your gross annual income is the amount listed on the chart above or less, then you might qualify for low income status.
- To determine if you qualify for low income status, you must have your income verified by the Scholarship Program staff.
- Income status determines priority for awarding scholarships. It also determines if your family will be responsible for paying any tuition that is not covered by the scholarship.
- Obtain the Income Verification Form from the scholarship website. Complete the form and mail it, along with copies of your income documents, to the address listed on the form.