

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Cleveland Scholarship Program

Is my child eligible? If you live within the boundaries of the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) and your child will be entering grades kindergarten through twelfth in the 2014-2015 school year, you are eligible to apply.

What if my child has special education needs? Mainstreamed children are eligible to apply. If your child requires separate education needs, eligibility will be based upon the admissions policy of the nonpublic schools.

From which schools may I choose? Chartered nonpublic schools located within the boundaries of the CMSD and all public school districts surrounding CMSD are eligible to participate in the program. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction must approve schools to participate before parents/guardians may enroll children for the program.

How will the State award scholarships? Complete applications, with verification of income and residence, must be returned as soon as possible. Low-income applicants are given priority. Scholarships will be awarded by lottery drawings. The first selection will include applications received on or before February 28, 2014. All other selection dates are subject to the number of applications received. The last day to submit a **complete** application is April 18, 2014. Late submissions will not be accepted.

What is the scholarship amount? Scholarship awards depend upon tuition at participating schools. Students in grades K-8 are eligible for \$4,250 and \$5,700 for those in grades 9-12. The maximum scholarship value will be no more than the legislated amount or the school's tuition, whichever is less.

Who pays the rest? Parents/guardian must arrange to pay the chartered nonpublic school any difference due in tuition that is not paid by the state. Low-income families may request to work/volunteer at the school, as payment-in-lieu of cash toward the non-State portion of tuition.

Do I have to reapply each year? In order to keep scholarship awards from one year to the next, parents/guardians must renew them each school year. As long as your child continues to attend a participating school and meets all other program requirements, the scholarship is renewable through 12th grade.

What if my child is not awarded a scholarship? Applicants not awarded a scholarship have to submit a new application each year until one is awarded.

How will payments be made? Checks are mailed to schools for parent/guardians to sign. The program only pays for tuition (instruction). This excludes fees (i.e. application, registration), after-school care, daycare or latchkey programs, etc.

What if my child transfers to a different school? Students may transfer to any school that participates with the program.

Who provides transportation? Transportation is available via CMSD. Parents/Guardians are required by law to contact CMSD for arrangements and eligibility requirements for transportation.