

EdChoice Virtual Office Hours



July 2023

Office of Nonpublic Educational Options



Introductions

- Office of Nonpublic Educational Options
 - **Christine Burns**, *Director*
 - **Jim Schlunt**, *Program Administrator*

EdChoice Virtual Office Hours Agenda

Overview

Traditional EdChoice

EdChoice Expansion

Reminders

Q & A

Overview of Changes

- House Bill 33 was enacted July 4, 2023, and included many changes to Ohio's scholarship programs. A summary of changes include:
 - Award amounts
 - Eligibility
 - Prorated scholarships
 - Removal of sibling eligibility criteria



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Traditional EdChoice Changes

The scholarship amount for **Traditional EdChoice** has increased. The amount of the scholarship is based on the state base cost for public school districts. *There might be a slight adjustment in the amount this fall.*

<i>GRADES K-8</i>
\$6,165
<i>GRADES 9-12</i>
\$8,407

Traditional EdChoice Changes

- **Traditional EdChoice** is no longer the default program if a family qualifies for both programs
 - A family can choose which program they want to participate in
 - For some families, they will want to be in the Traditional EdChoice Scholarship program if they qualify as there is no reduction in award amount based on household income level

Traditional EdChoice: Low Income Status

- Families who are at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level qualify for low-income status
 - Do not have to pay any tuition that is not covered by the scholarship
- Income verification not required to apply
 - To qualify for low-income status, a family may **choose** to have their income verified
- Schools cannot ask parents of a student to disclose whether the family's income is at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines during the admissions process

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EdChoice Expansion Changes

- The **EdChoice Expansion** program eligibility has expanded
 - If a family’s household income is at or below 450 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), they will be awarded the maximum scholarship amount based on enrollment date
 - If a family’s household income is at or above 451 percent of the FPL, the student’s scholarship award will be prorated to reflect the totals outlined on the next slide

Prorations & Federal Poverty Levels

Federal Poverty Level	Award Amount for Grades K-8	Award Amount for Grades 9-12
0 – 450%	\$6,165	\$8,407
451 - 500%	\$5,200	\$7,050
501 - 550%	\$3,650	\$5,000
551 - 600%	\$2,600	\$3,550
601 - 650%	\$1,850	\$2,500
651 - 700%	\$1,300	\$1,750
701 - 750%	\$900	\$1,250
751% or higher	\$650	\$950



EdChoice Expansion Changes

**On or Before
October 14, 2023**

Awards will be the full amount the student is eligible to receive based on the household's [federal poverty level](#) and enrollment date.

After October 14, 2023

Awards will be 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.

EdChoice Expansion Changes

- **Sibling Eligibility Criteria**

- Additionally, the sibling eligibility criteria has been removed from the EdChoice Expansion program as the income levels have been expanded to include all students in a household

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- [Find updated information](#) about the Traditional EdChoice and EdChoice Expansion Scholarship programs on the Department's website
- More information on the prorated amounts for EdChoice Expansion will be available in October



Helpful Tips: *When applying, please ensure that the parent's first five digits of SSN are blacked out. Additionally, Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) can be found on page 1 of current Form 1040.*

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Questions?



Contact Information



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