

Cleveland Scholarship Fact Sheet

2026-2027 School Year

WHAT IS OHIO'S CLEVELAND SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

The Cleveland Scholarship Program (CSP) provides educational choices for children in kindergarten through twelfth grade who live within the boundaries of the Cleveland Municipal School District (CMSD) to attend private schools. Students currently attending private schools may be eligible to apply for the program. [Find more information](#) about the Cleveland program on the Department's website.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Students who reside within the boundaries of the Cleveland Municipal School District (CMSD) and will be entering kindergarten through twelfth grade in the 2026-2027 school year are eligible to apply.

WHEN WILL CLEVELAND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS BE ACCEPTED?

The application window opens February 1, 2026, and will close June 30, 2027. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce will open the Cleveland Scholarship Application through its secure, web-based system. Staff members of the participating private schools have access to the system and will help parents/guardians apply for the scholarship by entering information into the online system.

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP?

The maximum amount of the scholarship for K-8 is currently \$6,166 and high school is \$8,408. Each school has different tuition amounts. Depending on the amount of the school's tuition, the scholarship will pay up to the designated amount. If the tuition is more than the scholarship amounts, the parent may be responsible for the difference.

HOW WILL PAYMENTS BE MADE?

Checks are mailed from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce to private schools for parents/guardians to sign. The private school will use funds to pay for the student's tuition only.

WILL PARENTS/GUARDIANS HAVE ANY OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS?

If the family qualifies for low-income status, (at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines) and your student is grades K-8, the family will not have to pay tuition that is not covered by the scholarship. Parents/guardians are responsible for registration fees, materials fees, and other related expenses. The scholarship award can only be used towards school tuition.

ONCE THE STUDENT RECEIVES THE SCHOLARSHIP, HOW LONG CAN THEY CONTINUE TO ATTEND THE PRIVATE SCHOOL?

Once a student receives a Cleveland Scholarship, they will need to renew each school year through 12th grade. Parents/guardians must verify their residence in the Cleveland Municipal School District and meet all other program requirements to remain eligible for the program.

WHAT IF MY CHILD TRANSFERS TO A DIFFERENT SCHOOL?

Students may transfer to any school that participates in the Cleveland Scholarship program.

WHO PROVIDES TRANSPORTATION?

Depending on where a family resides and where the child will be attending school, transportation may be available. Parents/Guardians should contact CMSD for arrangements and eligibility requirements for transportation.

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