

# EdChoice Expansion Scholarship Program

## Fact Sheet for 2026-2027

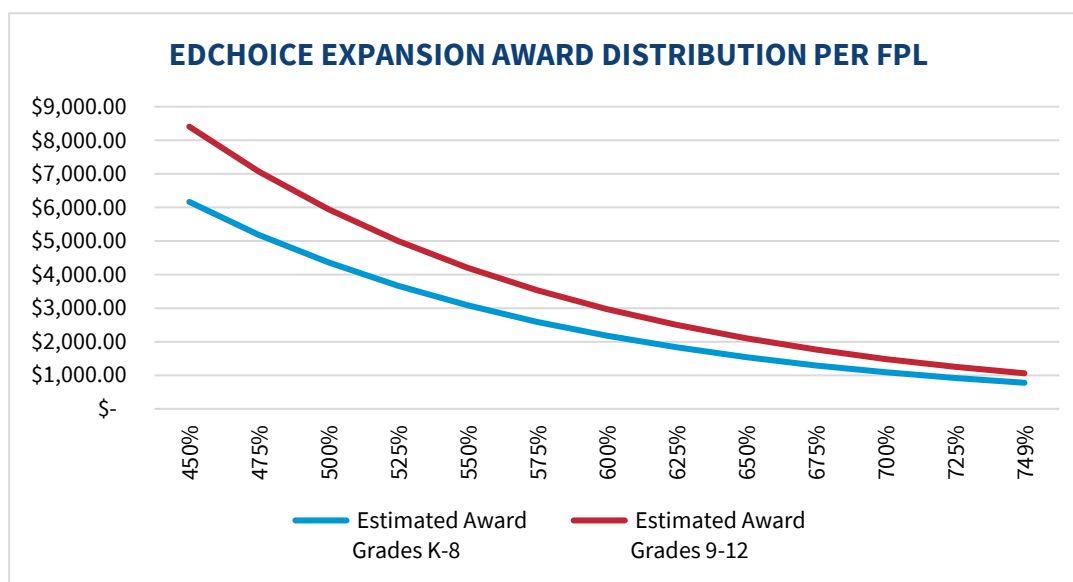
### WHAT IS OHIO'S EDCHOICE EXPANSION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

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, 2026, and will remain open through June 30th, 2027. Families must complete the enrollment/admission process at the participating private school for fall 2026. 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 in EdChoice and EdChoice Expansion 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 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026, 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?

[Find more information](#) about EdChoice Expansion on the Department's website or contact [edchoice@education.ohio.gov](mailto:edchoice@education.ohio.gov).

The Cleveland Scholarship and Tutoring Program is still available for residents of the Cleveland Municipal School District. [Find more information](#) about the Cleveland program on the Department's website.

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