





## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2023-2024 INCOME VERIFICATION FORM

Traditional EdChoice and Cleveland Scholarship applicants qualify for low-income status if income is at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines. **Note that first-time applicants for EdChoice-Expansion are eligible for scholarships if income is at or below 250% of poverty.** However, only scholarship families with a household gross income of 200% or lower qualify for low-income status. This means that the private school cannot charge these families for any tuition that is not covered by the scholarship. Scholarship families with a household gross income of 201% or higher are responsible for paying any tuition difference not covered by the scholarship. This chart will help you determine if you may qualify.

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.

Based on the number of people in your household, you may qualify for low-income status if your gross annual income is the amount listed on the chart or less.

Household size is determined by the following: the scholarship student, the birth mother, or the legal guardian of the scholarship student, the spouse (also includes birth father of any child in the household), all children under the age of 18 which the legal guardian or spouse also has legal custody.

**2023 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES**  
*Source: Office of the Asst. Sec. for Planning & Eval/US Dept of HHS*

NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD	GROSS ANNUAL AMOUNT (200%)	GROSS ANNUAL AMOUNT (250%)
1	\$29,160	\$36,450
2	\$39,440	\$49,300
3	\$49,720	\$62,150
4	\$60,000	\$75,000
5	\$70,280	\$87,850
6	\$80,560	\$100,700
7	\$90,840	\$113,550
8	\$101,120	\$126,400
<b>FOR EACH ADDITIONAL PERSON ADD:</b>	\$10,280	\$12,850

You must provide documentation for all sources of income in your home. The documents must represent current income. Do not send original documents, as they cannot be returned. Block the first 5 digits of all social security numbers in all documents leaving only the last 4 digits to be seen. See page 3 for acceptable income documents.

List each person that has earned or unearned income. If someone has more than one source of income, use multiple lines.

INCOME INFORMATION	First and Last Name	Name of Employer or Income Source	Gross Amount Before Taxes	How Often Received
	Example: John Smith Example: Jane Smith	Employment- Kroger Child Support	\$1200 \$475	Bi-Weekly Monthly

X \_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PRIMARY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN REQUIRED

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE



## How to Complete the Income Verification Process

1. Obtain the Income Verification Form on our website at: <http://education.ohio.gov/edchoice> or <http://education.ohio.gov/clevelandscholarship> or the nonpublic school where you have applied for or renewed a scholarship. (Complete pages 1 and 2 of this document)
2. Complete the parent/guardian information on page 1, filling in all lines. This should be the same information you have provided on the scholarship application/renewal form.
3. List household members (i.e. spouse, children) on page 1 and provide all the information requested.
4. Write your sources of income on page 2 and provide copies of acceptable, supporting documentation.
5. Sign at the bottom of page 2. Do not return page 3.
6. Based on your household, determine from the list below which one fits your status. For example: If your status is (a) of the choices below, you only have to submit the documents for that option, not all of them.
  - a) If you are currently employed, and have the same job you had all of last year, send either 4 current pay stubs for each job, your W-2 forms, your 2022 Federal Income Tax Return forms or your 2022 Federal Income Tax transcripts which may be obtained at : [WWW.IRS.GOV](http://WWW.IRS.GOV) or by mailing the 4506-T form to the IRS.
  - b) If you are currently employed but did not work your current job for all of last year, send 4 current pay stubs for each job.
  - c) If you are self-employed, send a copy of your 2022 Federal Income Tax Return forms, including all schedules or your 2022 Federal Income Tax transcript.
  - d) If you receive other income sources such as food stamps/OWF, child support, unemployment, Social Security, etc., then you must send copies of official documentation which show how much you receive from each source. Example: If you currently work and receive food stamps and child support, you must submit four current pay stubs, official documentation that shows how much you receive in food stamps, and official documentation that shows how much you receive in child support.
  - e) If you have no income or you do not have pay stubs or W-2's, provide your 2022 Federal tax transcript from the IRS. Go to [WWW.IRS.GOV](http://WWW.IRS.GOV). Please mail the request form to the IRS and once you receive your transcript, please mail a copy of that form to our office with the Income Verification form.
  - f) If you are recently unemployed, please provide a separation letter from your previous employer stating your last day of employment and your last paycheck stub.

**DO NOT send original documents.** Make copies (ex. W-2, check stubs, etc.) to send to our office and block the first 5 digits of all social security numbers on all documents only leaving the last 4 digits to be seen. Submit only one (1) form per family. (Ex. A family with 3 students in the program only needs to send the form one time per school year.) Keep a copy for your records.

Income Verification may be mailed or submitted electronically. The Income Verification form with supporting income documents may be mailed to the **Ohio Department of Education, Scholarship Program Office 25 S. Front Street, Mail Stop 309, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4183.**

To submit online for processing, parents can [visit our website](#) for instructions to access the parent portal and guidance to submit electronically. Parents are responsible for submitting the Income Verification documents, not the private school. Contact Scholarship Program at 614-728-2743, or by email at [edchoice@education.ohio.gov](mailto:edchoice@education.ohio.gov) or [cleveland.scholarship@education.ohio.gov](mailto:cleveland.scholarship@education.ohio.gov), if you have any questions.