

Parents,

Tax season is upon us, and I know many of you are working on getting your taxes filed for 2018. If you received a voucher last year or you are interested in receiving a voucher this coming school year (2019-20), please keep the income limits in mind. I have attached the recently published income guidelines chart for the 2019-20 school year. You can discuss with your tax accountant different ways you can adjust your income to allow you to qualify for a voucher. We are required to use your 2018 1040 tax form to verify your income when you apply for a voucher.

Please take a moment to look at the attached chart. If your 2018 ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME is below the amount for your household size, you may qualify for a smaller or larger voucher.

Things to keep in mind when looking at the chart:

- The 69% column does not apply to our school.
- The 100% column shows the income guidelines to qualify for the larger voucher (which covers most, if not all, of our tuition).
- The 150% column shows the income guidelines to qualify for the smaller voucher if this is the first year your student receives a voucher (or if he received one in a previous year, but does not currently have a voucher in the current 2018-19 school year).
- The 200% column shows the income guidelines to qualify for the smaller voucher if your student currently has a voucher or is in the special education track. A smaller voucher covers approximately 2/3 of our tuition expenses.

If your student receives any state benefits (ie, SNAP, Medicaid, HIP, etc.), your income **probably** qualifies under the CHOICE guidelines (but this is not always the case).

I know all this can be very confusing, and I am happy to talk with you individually about your situation. Now is the time to plan for qualifying for a voucher for 2019-20. **If your income is at or below the amount (for your household size) in any of these three columns, please contact me soon so we can check to see if you can qualify your student.**

*****Your income is only one part** of the qualification process; the student must also have a PATHWAY – there are nine possible pathways. Again, we can discuss these to determine if your student qualifies under any of these pathways.

I would encourage you to look at the Indiana Department of Education's **Choice** website for more information: <https://www.doe.in.gov/choice> All of the information has not been updated for the 2019-20 school year, but you can at least get an idea of the available pathways and some of the basic guidelines. See the examples below.

Refer to the attached chart for these examples:

Example 1 (see blue oval): A family of five has total household income (AGI) of \$55,000 in 2018. Their student(s) will qualify for the larger voucher based on their income. We also need to determine if there is a pathway to complete the voucher application.

Example 2 (see green oval): A parent with one child has a total household income (AGI) of \$46,000 in 2018. The student will qualify for a smaller voucher based on the income. We also need to determine if there is a pathway to complete the voucher application.

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Disclaimer: All of this information is subject to the rules and regulations of the Indiana Choice program. This is not meant to be the definitive word on the program, but I wanted to give you some helpful information early in the process. We will make **Applications for Financial Assistance** available to you soon, along with your re-enrollment packets.