

July 21, 2023

Dear SJS Families,

I am writing to share some great news that impacts ALL of our K-8 students at SJS! Recently, Governor DeWine signed the new two-year budget for the state of Ohio, which includes a significant increase in eligibility for the EdChoice Expansion scholarship. **Now ALL students in K-8 are eligible for a full or partial scholarship based on the sliding scale below.** A full scholarship covers \$6165 towards K-8 tuition and decreases on a sliding scale from there, with the lowest scholarship amount being \$650. Your child's specific EdChoice Expansion Scholarship amount is dependent on your family's 2022 household size and adjusted gross income. As you can see, families that are at or below 450% of the federal poverty guidelines are eligible for a full state-funded scholarship for the coming school year. This increased scholarship amount will help ensure that our school is being better funded to meet the actual cost of educating our students each year and bring in resources that can be used to further increase the quality and value of the education offered at SJS! We feel very grateful and blessed to be able to work with each family to get the most out of this new opportunity! (Next steps on the next page!)

2023-2024 EdChoice Eligibility & Awards

Household 2022 Adjusted Gross Income (Line 22 of Form 1040)

Household Size	450% FPL	500% FPL	550% FPL	600% FPL	650% FPL	700% FPL	750% FPL	Above 750% FPL
2	\$88,740	\$98,600	\$108,460	\$118,320	\$128,180	\$138,040	\$147,900	\$147,900 +
3	\$111,870	\$124,300	\$136,730	\$149,160	\$161,590	\$174,020	\$186,450	\$186,450 +
4	\$135,000	\$150,000	\$165,000	\$180,000	\$195,000	\$210,000	\$225,000	\$225,000 +
5	\$158,130	\$175,700	\$193,270	\$210,840	\$228,410	\$245,980	\$263,550	\$263,550 +
6	\$181,260	\$201,400	\$221,540	\$241,680	\$261,820	\$281,960	\$302,100	\$302,100 +
7	\$204,390	\$227,100	\$249,810	\$272,520	\$295,230	\$317,940	\$340,650	\$340,650 +
8	\$227,520	\$252,800	\$278,080	\$303,360	\$328,640	\$353,920	\$379,200	\$379,200 +
Per Child Award Amount	K-8: \$6,165 9-12: \$8,407	K-8: \$5,200 9-12: \$7,050	K-8: \$3,650 9-12: \$5,000	K-8: \$2,600 9-12: \$3,550	K-8: \$1,850 9-12: \$2,500	K-8: \$1,300 9-12: \$1,750	K-8: \$900 9-12: \$1,250	K-8: \$650 9-12: \$950

*Percentages based on 2023 Federal Poverty Levels (FPL)



So, what happens next?!?!?! Here are the steps you need to take in order to apply for this scholarship. We are encouraging ALL families to take advantage of this opportunity to help lower your personal tuition burden!

Parent Responsibilities:

1. Click [HERE](#) to create an OH|ID account
2. Complete the [Income Verification Form](#)
3. Submit the form on your OH|ID account- Click [HERE](#) for a step by step guide on how to complete the Income Verification upload
4. Complete the EdChoice Expansion Application/Request Form (available [here](#)) Can fill out online, but must print and physically sign before scanning in or bringing it to the school office.
5. Submit the completed application along with Acceptable Proof of Address, and a copy of your child's birth certificate to Mrs. Hunker in the school office. IMPORTANT: These documents may be printed and brought to the school or sent in PDF FORMAT in an email to robin.hunker@sjs-amherst.org. Please also cc Mrs. Makruski on the email- amy.makruski@sjs-amherst.org. Again, all documents must be emailed in PDF format!

Application Tips:

- Be sure the parent who signs the parent agreement on the bottom of the second page of the application/request form is the same parent that is listed as the primary parent. The signature must be handwritten, electronic signatures will not be accepted.
- The utility bill for proof of address, as mentioned in step 5 above (electric, gas, water, sewer, cable/internet) bill MUST SHOW MATCHING SERVICE AND MAILING ADDRESS in the name of the parent/guardian. On most bills, this is the part you would rip off and send back. Please be sure the one you submit does not have the bottom part ripped off. Cell phone bills do not work.
- If you live with someone else, like a parent, and all bills are in the name of the parent, you need to:
 - Have the homeowner/person with the bill in their name write a short letter stating that you reside with them at the address listed on the bill. This letter needs to be notarized. You can get this done at a bank, at the UPS store, or at your local library in most cases. Call ahead to be sure. This notarized letter needs submitted to the office, with-
 - A bill in the homeowners name meeting the requirements listed above, and
 - A piece of business mail that comes to that address in YOUR name- i.e. something from the state of Ohio, a bank statement, etc. This is all to help prove residency.

Ways to Submit:

You may:

- Email the above request form, proof of address, and birth certificate to the addresses mentioned above in PDF format and we will enter the information into the application system. DO NOT email us your income verification form and proof of income. This is sent directly to the state through the online portal discussed above. There is also an option to mail it, but we have seen lots of delays when things have been mailed. The online portal is the best option.
- If bringing documents to the school in-person is a better option for you, please use the open hours listed below that will be dedicated to accepting EdChoice applications and answering questions, etc.
 - Wednesday, 7/26 10a - 2p, Monday, 7/31 5:30p - 7:30p, and Wednesday, 8/2 12p - 4p

If you have already made K-8 tuition payments for the 23/24 school year, don't worry. Once you are approved for the EdChoice scholarship, we will cancel your FACTS payment plan and issue a refund of the already paid tuition. If you have any questions, I will do my best to answer them, just email me at amy.makruski@sjs-amherst.org.

Mrs. Amy Makruski, Principal