



1.30.2020

Dear Mercy Parents-

Annually our Board of Directors discusses each of the Ohio Scholarship programs, and we determine whether we feel the programs are a match for our school. This year, due to the EdChoice and EdChoice Expansion programs, we are now ready to commit to being a provider school.

There have been many questions regarding the EdChoice Scholarship over the course of this last month due to stories in the newspaper and on the news. This past Tuesday, I attended a meeting held by the Scholarship administrators which was for principals of non-public schools up in Dayton.

There are some very interesting things happening with this scholarship up in Columbus as I write this. **The information I give you right now, may change**, so please do not “shoot the messenger”.

If you are interested in the scholarship, YOU, as a parent, need to apply for the scholarship. You can get all of the MOST CURRENT AND UP TO DATE INFORMATION at this web address:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Scholarship-Program/EdChoice-Scholarship-Information-for-Parents>

Although there are scholarships available, very few of our Mercy families will actually qualify. From the information given at the meeting, I can tell you with certainty, that the families who are MOST eligible for the scholarship, are those who have children who are 4 years old, going into our Kindergarten. If your family qualifies, your child could receive a maximum award of \$4650 that can be applied to tuition here at Mercy, now that we are considered a provider.

The other population that has a chance for the scholarship are those who are in 8th grade going into high school. If you qualify for the scholarship, you could receive \$6,000.00 which could be applied to your high school tuition if the high school you choose is a provider school.

There are many caveats as to what the qualifications for the scholarships that are still being worked out.

It will be your job to determine whether you want to apply for the scholarship at the private high school you are interested in, and, if the private school is a provider. This is truly a case of "DO your own homework".

I have attached the flow charts that were given to us at the meeting so that you can determine whether your child will qualify. These are the charts I have been instructed to use to start the process. There is a total of 8 charts to help determine eligibility.

Once that has happened, there are 2 steps for you to manage....

1. Submit the scholarship Request Form, a copy of your child's birth certificate and a utility bill BEFORE April 9, 2020 to Patty Normile.
This is our School Guideline. This is due to Spring Break.
We will NOT process any applications between April 10 and April 15th.
IF you miss this deadline, the second round of applications can be submitted beginning July 1.
2. Submit the Income Verification Form and the supporting documents to the Ohio Department of Education BY US MAIL.

Tips to make the process easier:

Read, read, and read again the website information. Watch the various videos That are on the ODE website about the scholarship.

Stay current with the News and legislation.....especially in the next couple of weeks.

If you decide to apply, be sure you use your legal name and your child's legal name.

Remember we are new to this scholarship process too....be patient.

Email me with questions. If I don't have the answers, I will do my best to find them for and with you.

With "This year is going to be interesting with this new opportunity" Spirit-

Patty Normile

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List of Scholarship Attachments

2020- 2021 - EdChoice Scholarship Program Fact Sheet

Charts for determining eligibilty

Ed Choice Scholarship Program Request Form

EdChoice and Cleveland Scholarship Program 2020-2021 Income Verification Form