

# The Hope Scholarship: Q&A

## What is the Hope Scholarship?

West Virginia parents will now have more flexibility and choices in educating their children. The Hope Scholarship is a portion of state-allocated educational dollars that funds a student for use on a range of state-approved educational items.

## How much can my child receive?

The new Hope Scholarship gives parents \$4,600 each year, per child to customize each individual child's education. However, that amount may be subject to change each year based on the state's education funding formula.

## How can I spend my child's Hope Scholarship?

- Textbooks
- Private School
- Private Tutoring
- Online Learning
- Credentialing
- Educational Therapies
- Technology
- College Credits
- And more!

## When will the Hope Scholarship be available?

- Applications will open up on March 1st, 2022.
- The program will go into effect July 1st, 2022.

## Who will monitor spending of the Hope Scholarship?

The West Virginia Treasurer's Office

## How many students will be eligible?

All students who have been enrolled full time in public school for a minimum of 45 calendar days or who are of kindergarten age for the 2022-23 school year will be eligible to apply for the Hope Scholarship. The goal is to provide individualized opportunities for all students. More than 90% of the student population in West Virginia will be eligible immediately upon implementation of the program.

## How do I know if my child is eligible?

Are you a resident of West Virginia?

Will your child be attending, full-time, a public elementary or high school in state for the 2021/2022 school year?

**If yes to both questions, your child is eligible to receive the Hope Scholarship!**

## My child is homeschooled. Are they eligible?

Current homeschoolers and private school students are not eligible unless they return to public school to meet the 45-day minimum enrollment period. However, legislation states that these students may become eligible if fewer than 5% of currently eligible students enroll in the scholarship program by July 1, 2024, then eligibility will expand to 100% of West Virginia's students on July 1, 2026.

## I have more than one child. Are they all eligible?

It depends. \$4,600 is allotted for each child, NOT each family. As long as you are a resident of West Virginia and your child will be a public school student in the 2021/2022 school year for at least 45 days, your student is eligible!

## Is the 45-day public education rule a one-time requirement?

If you apply for the Hope Scholarship in March 2022 and are accepted into the program you do not have to re-enroll your child in public schools again after receiving the Hope Scholarship in order to get it again in future years. Once you're in the program, it's a new student designation - like being designated as a public school kid, private school kid, or home school kid. The child would be a Hope Scholarship student unless they chose to leave the program.

