

Opportunity Scholarship Program

Information for Parents and School Administrators

What is the Opportunity Scholarship Program?

Opportunity Scholarship Program



Expands school choice for eligible students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

- Covers tuition and required fees at a participating nonpublic school.
- Awards up to \$4,200 per student per school year.

NCSEAA administers the program.

- Manages the application and award process.
- Ensures the school meets program requirements.
- Verifies each student's eligibility.
- Disburses Opportunity Scholarship funds.

Which nonpublic schools
participate in the program?

Participating schools list



Elementary through High School Scholarship Grants

[Opportunity Scholarships](#)

[Special Education Scholarship Grants for Children with Disabilities](#)

Opportunity Scholarship Program

The Opportunity Scholarship Program expands school choice in kindergarten through 12th grade. This program provides funds to eligible students to attend a participating nonpublic school.

The ongoing legal challenge to the Opportunity Scholarship program by the North Carolina Supreme Court has upheld the constitutionality of the Opportunity Scholarship Program. The North Carolina State Education Assistance Authority will send funds to the nonpublic schools enrolling students.

To apply for the Opportunity Scholarship for the first time, complete the application form. Students who have not received an Opportunity Scholarship are eligible to apply.

All eligible applicants who apply after **March 1, 2015** are placed on the waiting list. An applicant's position on the waiting list is determined as follows: based on their lottery number. Applicants who apply after March 1, 2015 are received.

When the NC General Assembly completes the budget process, additional students may be added to the waiting list.

For full details, read the [Opportunity Scholarship Program Overview](#).

[Opportunity Scholarship Portal](#)

[Program Overview](#)

[Current List of Nonpublic Schools](#)

[Household Income Worksheet](#)

[Opportunity Scholarship FAQ](#)

[Information for Nonpublic Schools](#)

How do I know if my student
is eligible to apply for
a Scholarship?

Eligibility Part 1

An eligible student meets all Part 1 requirements.

- ☑ is 5 years old on or before August 31
- ☑ lives in an eligible household
- ☑ has not graduated from high school
- ☑ is a resident of North Carolina



Eligibility Part 2

An eligible student meets **at least 1** Part 2 requirement.

- ☐ received an Opportunity Scholarship last year
- ☐ was a full-time student attending a NC public school last spring semester
- ☐ is entering kindergarten or 1st grade
- ☐ is in foster care
- ☐ was adopted within the last year

How do I calculate
my household income?

Household Income Eligibility Guidelines 2016-17

\$4,200 Award Limit	Maximum Household Gross Income for 2015		
	# in Household	To receive full tuition up to \$4,200	To receive 90% of tuition*
	2	\$ 29,637	\$ 39,417
	3	\$ 37,296	\$ 49,604
	4	\$ 44,955	\$ 59,790
	5	\$ 52,614	\$ 69,977
	6	\$ 60,273	\$ 80,163
	7	\$ 67,951	\$ 90,374
	8	\$ 75,647	\$100,610

** The Opportunity Scholarship will be for 90% of the required tuition and fees or \$4,200, whichever is less.*

3 Person Household



\$33,500

?



A \$3,800



B \$5,200

There are 3 people in my household, and our total household income in 2015 was \$33,500. I might want my student to attend *Nonpublic School A* where the required tuition and fees are \$3,800 a year, but I'm also considering *Nonpublic School B* where the required tuition and fees are \$5,200 a year. What are my options under the program?

Your options

Since the total income for a 3 person household income is less than \$37,296, you are eligible for the full \$4,200 to apply towards tuition and required fees.

Nonpublic School A		Nonpublic School B	
Tuition	\$ 3,800	Tuition	\$ 5,200
Award	-- \$ 3,800	Max Award	-- \$ 4,200
Your portion	\$ 0	Your portion	\$ 1,000
Since the tuition and fees are less than \$4,200, The Opportunity Scholarship pays the entire amount.		The Opportunity Scholarship pays \$4,200 towards tuition and fees. You are responsible for the \$1,000 difference.	

2 Person Household



\$33,500

?



A \$3,800



B \$5,200

There are 2 people in my household, and our total household income in 2015 was \$33,500. I might want my student to attend *Nonpublic School A* where the required tuition and fees are \$3,800 a year, but I'm also considering *Nonpublic School B* where the required tuition and fees are \$5,200 a year. What are my options under the program?

Your options

Since the total household income is less than \$39,417 but greater than \$29,637, you are eligible for 90% of the required tuition and fees. The Opportunity Scholarship Program will pay 90% or \$4,200, whichever is less.

Nonpublic School A		Nonpublic School B	
Tuition	\$ 3,800	Tuition	\$ 5,200
Award	-- \$ 3,420	Max Award	-- \$ 4,200
Your portion	\$ 380	Your portion	\$ 1,000
The tuition and fees are less than \$4,200. The Opportunity Scholarship pays 90% of the cost.		The Opportunity Scholarship pays \$4,200 towards tuition and fees. You are responsible for the \$1,000 difference.	

My student meets all
the eligibility requirements.
Where do I find the application?

Forms are online.

New Student Application:

www.NCSEAA.edu

Renewing Student Application:

- Via the Opportunity Scholarship Student Portal.
- Each renewing student needs a separate renewal application.

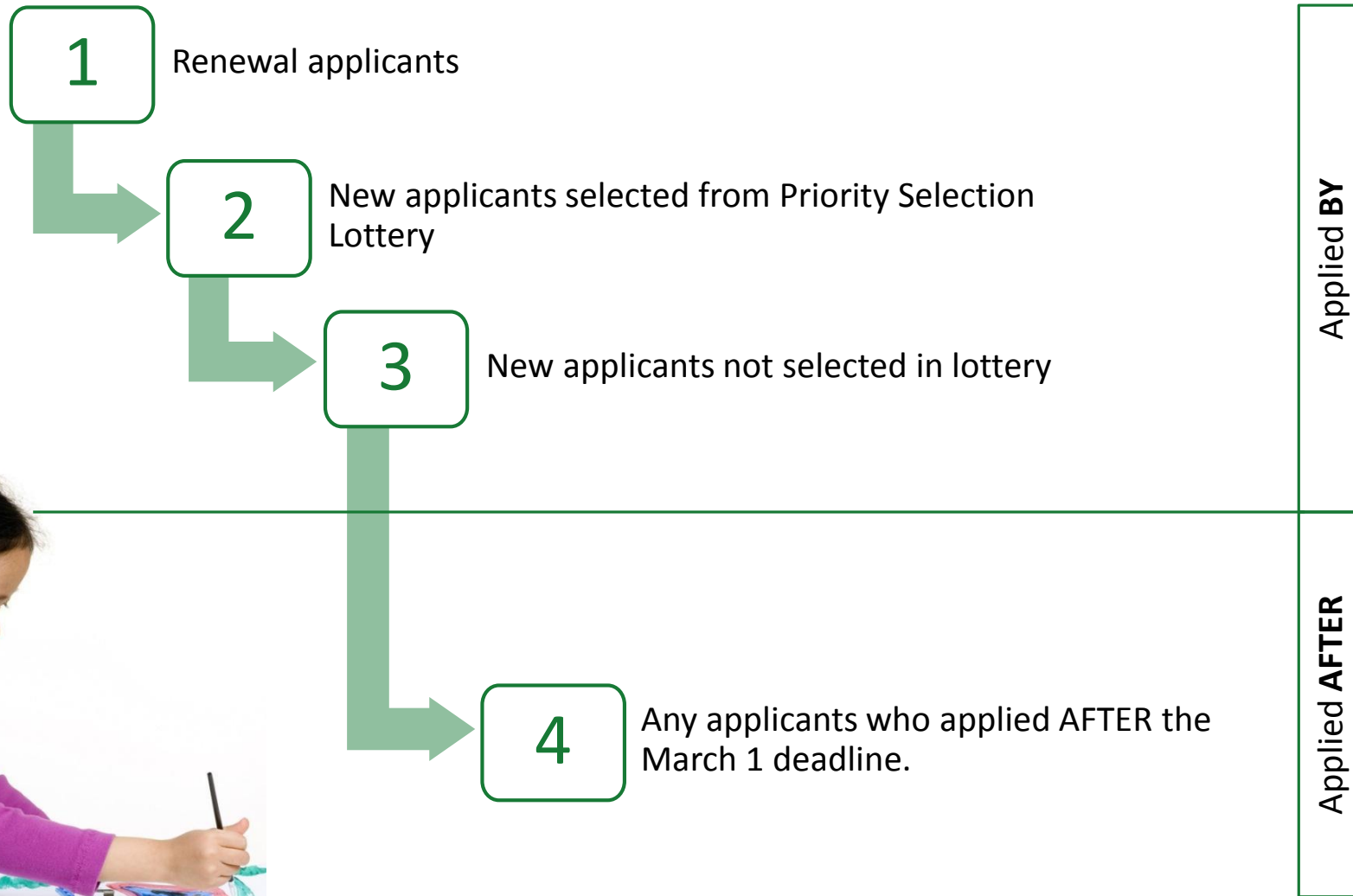
When do I submit
my completed application?

Application period begins



What is priority selection?

Priority Selection



March 1 Deadline



Priority selection deadline is



What happens if
I miss
the priority deadline?

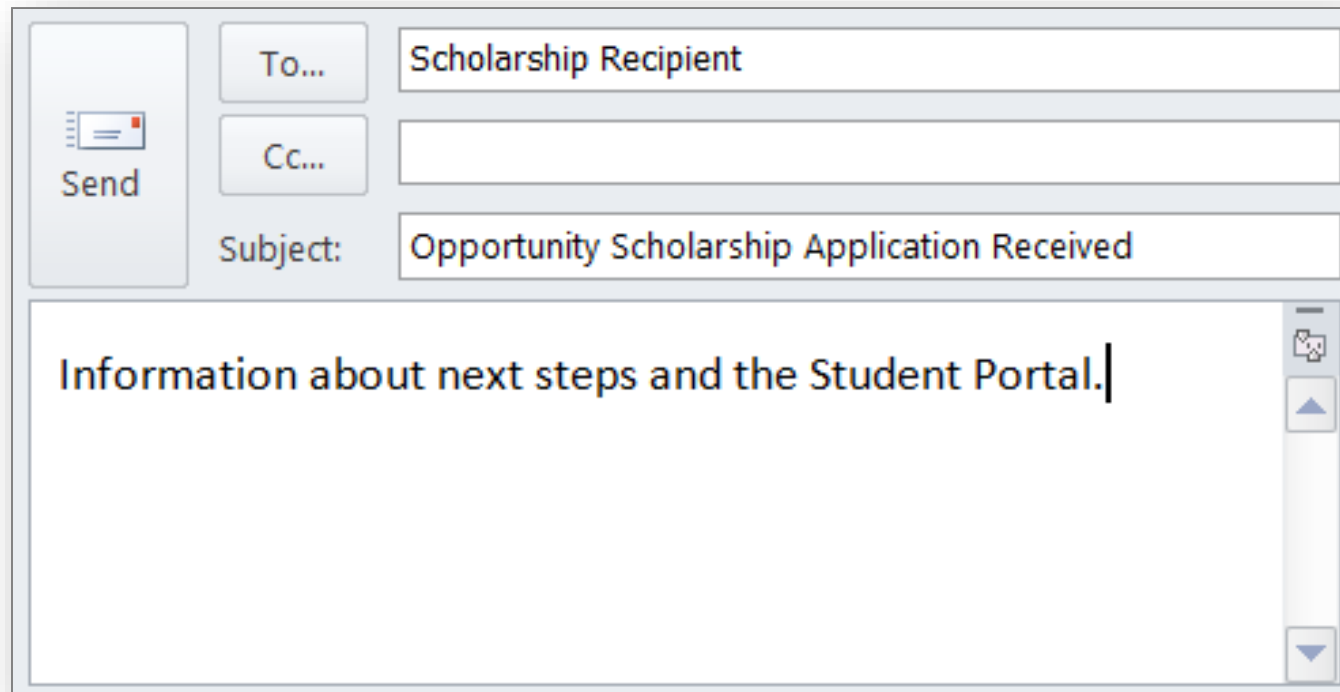
You can still apply if you missed the deadline.



- **All** applications, new and renewing, are added to the waitlist in receipt order.
- Renewing students who apply after the priority deadline are **not guaranteed** a Scholarship.

How do I know
if my application
was accepted?

You've got mail!



The image shows a screenshot of an email client's 'Compose' window. On the left is a 'Send' button with an envelope icon. To its right are three input fields: 'To...' with the text 'Scholarship Recipient', 'Cc...' which is empty, and 'Subject:' with the text 'Opportunity Scholarship Application Received'. Below these fields is a large text area containing the text 'Information about next steps and the Student Portal.' with a cursor at the end. On the right side of the text area is a vertical scrollbar.

Send

To... Scholarship Recipient

Cc...

Subject: Opportunity Scholarship Application Received

Information about next steps and the Student Portal.

When does award
selection begin?

Award selection begins in

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

How is the school paid?

NCSEAA pays the school directly.

A sample check from NCSEAA. The word "NCSEAA" is circled in red. A red "PAID" stamp is in the top right corner. The check is dated MMDDYY. The payee is SCHOOL NAME. The amount is XXXX.XX dollars. The check is for an Opportunity Scholarship. The MICR line at the bottom is ⑆000000186⑆ 000000529⑈ 1000. A large "SAMPLE" watermark is across the center. A small lock icon and "Security Features Details on back" text are on the right.

NCSEAA

MMDDYY
DATE

PAY TO THE ORDER OF SCHOOL NAME

Amount \$ XXXX.XX

DOLLARS

FOR Opportunity Scholarship NCSEAA

⑆000000186⑆ 000000529⑈ 1000

Security Features Details on back

* You must **sign** an endorsement form **at your chosen school before** any payments can be sent.

Additional Information



www.ncseaa.edu



OpportunityScholarships@ncseaa.edu



1-855-330-3955 (toll-free)