**\*Program Announcement 10.25.23\***

**The 2023 Appropriations Act Expands Eligibility for the Opportunity Scholarship Program**

On October 3, 2023, the North Carolina State Budget ([House Bill 259](https://webservices.ncleg.gov/ViewNewsFile/80/H259-CCSMHxr-6%20v17)) became law. The new law authorizes several changes to the State’s Opportunity Scholarship Program, which will begin with the 2024-2025 school year.

Changes for the 2024-2025 school year include:

* Removal of the income cap for families to receive the scholarship; now all North Carolina students in kindergarten through 12th grade will be eligible for the Scholarship regardless of income.
* Prior public school enrollment is no longer a requirement for eligibility for the scholarship.
* A student’s scholarship amount will be based on [household income](https://www.ncseaa.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/1171/2020/10/HHIncomeEligibilityGuidelines.pdf).
* Scholarship amounts will range from approximately $3,000 to approximately $7,000.

The Opportunity Scholarship application for the 2024-2025 school year will open on **February 1, 2024**. Families must apply by March 1 to receive priority consideration. More information about the application process will be available on the program website in January.

Click the link below to see if you qualify.

https://www.ncseaa.edu/k12/opportunity/interested-in-opportunity-scholarship/