



THERE IS NO APPLICATION IN THIS PACKET.

Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program

Steps to Apply

1

Eligibility: Your child is eligible for the Jon Peterson Special Needs scholarship if he/she has a current IEP.

2

Select a participating private school or service provider: Review the list of registered providers and select the one you are interested in using as the primary provider for your child's education and related services. You can use more than 1 participating provider to cover the services on your child's IEP.

3

Apply to a participating private school or provider: Complete any enrollment or registration paperwork required by the provider.

4

Scholarship Deadline: The private school or provider will apply for the Scholarship on your child's behalf. Applications are accepted year-round.

NOTE: The Ohio Department of Education will mail written notification to parents about whether or not their child has been awarded a scholarship.

We're here to Help.

www.schoio.org | info@schoio.org

(800) 673-5876

JON PETERSON SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP 2017-2018 FACT SHEET

WHAT IS OHIO'S JON PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

The Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program (JPSN) gives the parents of children with disabilities the choice to send their child to special education programs other than the one operated by their school district of residence to receive the education and the services outlined in their Individualized Education Program (IEP).

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Children are eligible to apply from kindergarten up to age 22 (if graduation requirements have not been met), and have been determined eligible for special education and related services through an Evaluation Team Report (ETR). A finalized IEP from their district of residence is required to receive the scholarship award.

WHEN WILL JPSN APPLICATIONS BE ACCEPTED?

The passage of House Bill 49 eliminated student application deadlines for the JPSN Scholarship Program. Students will have the ability to apply for the JPSN Scholarship year-round beginning September 29, 2017.

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP?

The scholarship amount is the lesser of the fee/tuition charged for the child by the special education program up to the maximum amount awarded based on the child's special education category.

Maximum scholarship amounts range from \$7,588 to \$27,000. The child must be enrolled in the scholarship program for the entire school year to receive the full scholarship amount. Refer to the Category Amounts chart for specific details.

WILL PARENTS/GUARDIANS HAVE TO PAY ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY?

The scholarship pays for services on the child's IEP. The cost of education is only included if the JPSN provider is a chartered non-public school, providing special education/related services and is an approved scholarship provider. Parents/legal guardians are also responsible for any costs exceeding the amount of the scholarship.

*Category 1 (Speech or Language Impairment) students may only utilize their scholarship to pay for related services that are included in the IEP. Students in this category cannot use the scholarship to pay tuition (education) at the nonpublic school.

JON PETERSON SPECIAL NEEDS SCHOLARSHIP 2017-2018 FACT SHEET

CAN A CHILD ATTEND PUBLIC SCHOOL AND USE THE JPSN SCHOLARSHIP?

No. The scholarship is an educational choice program. If a student is approved for the scholarship, the public district is no longer responsible for providing a free and appropriate education (FAPE).

ARE CHILDREN WHO ARE IN PRIVATE SCHOOL OR ARE HOME SCHOOLED ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Yes, but they must first be evaluated by their school district, and determined to qualify for special education.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP?

If a student is eligible for the JPSN Scholarship, the first step is to select a participating JPSN Provider to submit a scholarship application on behalf of the student. If multiple providers are selected, only one provider is able to submit the initial application. Additional selected providers will be able to access the application after the scholarship has been awarded to add applicable information.

WILL EVERY CHILD WHO APPLIES BE AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP?

No, the number of scholarships awarded cannot exceed five percent of the total number of Ohio students identified as a child with a disability. If the number of eligible students who apply for a scholarship exceeds the number of available scholarships, a lottery will be conducted.

IF MY CHILD IS AWARDED A SCHOLARSHIP, HOW LONG CAN HE/SHE CONTINUE TO USE THE SCHOLARSHIP?

The scholarship application process occurs on a yearly basis. If the student continues to be eligible for special education and related services and has a current IEP, then a parent may submit a renewal application for the next program year.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Visit the JPSN webpage at education.ohio.gov/jonpeterson or send an email to Peterson.scholarship@education.ohio.gov

Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Maximum Scholarship Amounts by Category

The Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program provides scholarships for children to receive special education services through a private or alternative public school provider. The chart below evidences the maximum scholarship amount based upon a child's special education category. The child must be enrolled in the scholarship program for the entire school year to receive the full scholarship amount. Parents are responsible for costs exceeding these amounts in addition to services not identified in the Individualized Education Program (IEP).

FY 2018 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)

1	Speech or Language Impairment*	\$7,588
2	Specific Learning Disability, Intellectual Disability or OHI-minor	\$10,015
3	Hearing Impaired or Emotional Disturbance	\$15,632
4	Vision Impaired or OHI-major	\$18,851
5	Orthopedic Impairment or Multi-handicapped	\$23,400
6	Autism, Traumatic Brain Injury, or Hearing and Vision Impaired	\$27,000

FY 2019 (July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019)

1	Speech or Language Impairment*	\$7,598
2	Specific Learning Disability, Intellectual Disability or OHI-minor	\$10,025
3	Hearing Impaired or Emotional Disturbance	\$15,642
4	Vision Impaired or OHI-major	\$18,861
5	Orthopedic Impairment or Multi-handicapped	\$23,410
6	Autism, Traumatic Brain Injury, or Hearing and Vision Impaired	\$27,000

*Category 1 (Speech or Language Impairment) students may only utilize their scholarship to pay for related services that are included in the IEP. The Jon Peterson Scholarship cannot be used to pay tuition at the nonpublic school.



Parent Checklist When Visiting Schools or Providers

Choosing a school for your child is a difficult and important decision. During your visit, it is important that you have all of the information that you need to make that decision. Make copies of this checklist to take to each school that you visit. Please ask about the following:

School Name _____ Contact Name _____ Phone _____

School Policies

Admission Requirements? _____

Volunteering? _____

Discipline? _____

Religious Expectations? _____

Attendance? _____

School Information

Number of Students? _____ Average class size? _____

Do You Offer....

Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Special Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Financial Aid	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Tutoring	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Breakfast	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No \$
Lunch	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No \$

Before/After Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$
Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$
Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$
Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$
Clubs	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$
Field Trips	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$

Other Costs

Tuition	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$ _____
Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$ _____
Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$ _____
Enrollment	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$ _____
Books/Supplies	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$ _____
Uniforms	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	\$ _____

You should be prepared to provide the following information to the private school: birth certificate, proof of your address (copy of recent utility bill), report cards and/or test records from your child's previous school. A scholarship request form and income verification forms can be obtained from the private school or provider. Please keep copies of all documents provided to the private school.

How to: Provider Search



Step 1: Go to School Choice Ohio's Website:

www.scoho.org

Step 2: Scroll down (below the videos) and select the **"Scholarship"** box

Step 3: From the list displayed, select the Scholarship you are interested in

For Cleveland, EdChoice & Income-Based Programs:

- a) Scroll down to the section titled: **"What private school can my child attend?"**
- b) Click on the link: **"Click here"** to access dashboard
- c) Click on **"Select Program"** on the top left hand corner – Select a program
- d) Within the Search Engine
 1. Verify your application period
 2. Specify the county you wish to run your search for
 3. Click on the Search button
 4. List is organized alphabetically by provider name

For Autism & Jon Peterson Special Needs:

- a) Scroll down to the section titled **"What can we use the scholarship for?"**
- b) Click on the link: **"Click here"** to access dashboard
- c) Click on **"Select Program"** on the top left hand corner – Select a Program
- d) Within the Search Engine
 1. Verify your application period
 2. Specify the county you wish to run your search for
 3. Click on the Search button
 4. List is organized alphabetically by provider name
- e) Click on the **"Details"** magnifying glass on the far right-hand column to see contact details and list of services for that provider

