

Catholic Education: Action Alert

Attention parents, parishioners, and Catholic school supporters!

The state of Ohio is planning its next two-year budget, as it does every other spring, with K-12 education consistently the largest area of spending for our state income and sales tax dollars.

Lawmakers are currently weighing proposals both to substantially increase funding for all of Ohio's public schools and to dramatically increase the availability of school choice scholarships such as EdChoice, which currently provides eligible pupils up to \$5,500 in tuition for grades K-8 and \$7,500 for grades 9-12.



"This could be the biggest seismic shift in Ohio's school choice landscape since the programs were first introduced, but it will require our sustained voice..."

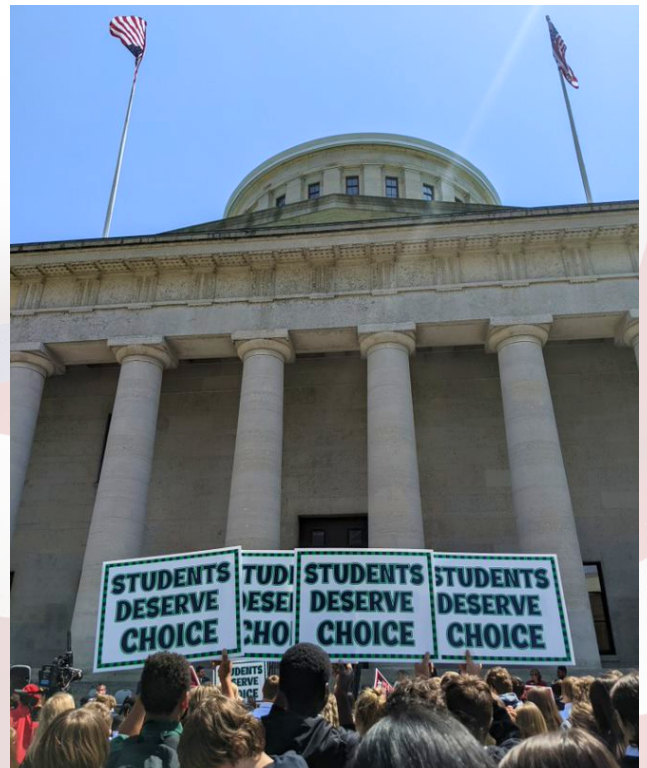
FRANK O'LINN, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Catholic Schools
Diocese of Cleveland

Recently, the Ohio House proposed increasing eligibility for EdChoice scholarships to a maximum annual household income up to 450% times the federal poverty level (see figure, next page).

The Ohio Senate is considering multiple proposals, including making EdChoice scholarships universally available to every student.

These scholarships are paid for by state revenues and **do not impact the public school funds generated from local tax revenues**, of which every dollar will remain with the local districts. The state's funding, up to the limit of the scholarship amount, will follow the pupil, funding students where they are educated.



May 17, 2023: Students gathered at the Ohio Statehouse to let our representatives know they support school choice legislation.

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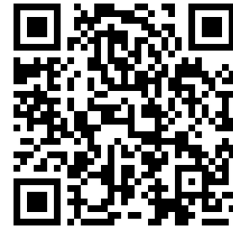
How you can help

Universal School Choice

If passed, **EVERY FAMILY** in Ohio, regardless of their residence or income level would be eligible for a scholarship to attend the school of their choice.

STEP 1 - ADVOCATE FOR SCHOOL CHOICE

Contact your elected officials to let them know you support these initiatives! Use [this link](#) or the QR code below to submit your support in less than 10 seconds.



STEP 2 - STAY ALERT

Lawmakers are working urgently to meet the June 30 budget deadline. Whatever the final policies, we hope to see more Ohioans eligible for state scholarships.

Use the chart to the right to review your own eligibility and see if you would qualify under the expanded guidelines of 450%.

If you believe you may be newly eligible with the proposed guidelines, inform your Catholic school now so they can support you through the application process once available.

STEP 3 - SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

Forward this information along and encourage others to raise their voice for school choice!

“Advocacy is not just the responsibility of parents and teachers...the entire Catholic community should be encouraged to advocate for parental school choice.”

- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

EdChoice Eligibility Guidelines

250% Current Guidelines		450% Proposed Budget	
Household Size	Annual Income	Household Size	Annual Income
2	\$49,300	2	\$88,740
3	\$62,150	3	\$111,870
4	\$75,000	4	\$135,000
5	\$87,850	5	\$158,130
6	\$100,700	6	\$181,260
7	\$113,550	7	\$204,390
8	\$126,400	8	\$227,520