

School Choice Scholarships: 2012-2013 School Year Scholarship Application

Since 1998, working to provide low-income families throughout Kentucky with quality educational choices

Who can apply for a School Choice Scholarship?

In order to apply for a School Choice Scholarship, a child must:

- ▶ Live and attend school in Jefferson & Oldham County, Kentucky
- ▶ Be entering Kindergarten (K) through Sixth (6) in the Fall of 2012
- ▶ Be Eligible for assistance under the Federal Lunch Program

Can you tell me more about the School Choice program?

Students who are awarded a scholarship, receive assistance up to \$2,000 of the annual cost of attending school.

Students can attend any private, independent, special needs, parochial or church-based schools located throughout Jefferson or Oldham County- it's the family's choice which school is **best** for their child.

School Choice believes a certain address or a lower income shouldn't limit a family's choice of schools.

Students can reapply **provided** they meet the criteria for the program & **funding** is available. Students can be awarded scholarships through the eighth (8) grade. Scholarship payments are paid directly to the child's school, in 3 installments over the year.

School Choice Program Details:

A School Choice scholarship can help offset the cost of your child attending the quality school of your choice, **provided:**

- 1.) Student remains in good standing with their school during their time in the program,
- 2.) Student and the family participates in all School Choice evaluation projects,
- 3.) Family turns in all required School Choice paperwork on time & complete
- 4.) Family pays their portion of school fees & tuition on time
- 5.) Family meets all requirements of the School Choice Family Meeting Program

How are the scholarships awarded?

Scholarships are awarded through a yearly scholarship drawing.

Scholarships are awarded without regard to religion, race or ethnicity.

Incomplete, late & non-eligible applications are NOT considered for scholarships.

Please be aware that submitting an application does NOT guarantee a scholarship.

What about my child's SIBLINGS?

Scholarships are awarded to all eligible children in a family!

If one child in a family is awarded in our May scholarship drawing, their siblings who apply & are entering grades K to 6 in the Fall of 2012 will also be awarded scholarships. Once the award year of the scholarship begins in the Fall of 2012, no new siblings are added to the program.

Do I have to pick a certain school?

No, the School Choice program is built on the core principle that parents **can and will** choose the best schools and the best education for their children.

Looking for a **COMPLETE list of all participating schools** in Jefferson & Oldham County?

- ▶ Email us at info@schoolchoiceky.org,
- ▶ Visit our web site at www.schoolchoiceky.org
- ▶ Call our office at (502)254-7274

Go to our web site to learn even more about the program!

www.schoolchoiceky.org

Want to see your income qualifies you to apply?

See page 3 for the Federal Lunch Program guidelines

How much is a School Choice Scholarship?

A School Choice scholarship can offset up to \$2,000, the yearly cost of your child attending the quality school of your choice in Jefferson or Oldham County.

Why not pay the whole tuition?

School Choice seeks to honor and support parents who are sacrificing to give their children greater educational opportunities. We provide a helping hand up, not a hand out.

Is the scholarship just for public school students?

Our goal is to reach as many new families as possible, who have never felt they had the option of choosing their child's school.

Therefore, students who are new to private school will be given preference for scholarships in the drawing.

What about transportation?

As with most parents who choose educational alternatives, School Choice parents are responsible for their child's daily transportation to and from school.

How do I apply for a School Choice scholarship?

Families submit a complete application with all required documentation, **to the school** they want their child to attend in the Fall of 2012

DEADLINE

**to submit your complete application
to the school you want your child to attend in the Fall of 2012 is**

March 30, 2012

**** Only applications sent in by schools are accepted by School Choice ****

Only one application per family is needed

Each year, all previous Scholarship applicants & recipients **must submit** a complete application with supporting documentation, to be considered for scholarships.

Make sure to keep copies of all the forms you submitted to our office for your records
You are responsible for notifying School Choice in writing of any change in email, address, phone number, school, etc.

Visit the School Choice web site to learn even more @ www.schoolchoiceky.org

All scholarship notification letters are mailed out after the week of June 15, 2012

2012-2013 Total Annual Income Limits

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR MAXIMUM YEARLY INCOME TO APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP
2	27,214
3	34,281
4	41,348
5	48,415
6	55,482
7	62,549
8	69,616
FOR EACH ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLD MEMBER ADD	+7,067

PLEASE NOTE:

- ▶ Earnings & other types of household funds include BUT are not limited to: wages; salaries; tips; strike benefits; unemployment compensation; bonuses, overtime; workmen’s compensation; any & all income from any self-owned business; S corporations; limited liability corporations; income from other types of corporations not listed here, family businesses that you receive funds/income/payments from; farms; grain payments; forgiven debt/loans, debt forgiveness, etc.
- ▶ Household Income also includes: Child Support, Alimony; Welfare Payments; Public Assistance Payments; Disability Payments (FOR ANY & ALL ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN HOUSEHOLD); Adoption Assistance Payments; Foster Care Payments of any kind; Kinship Care Payments; Housing Payments; Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Child Care benefits, EBT Benefits, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Kinship Care, Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (K-TAP), Disaster Relief, Section 8 Benefits, Pell Grants, Kentucky Works Program (KWP), Family Alternatives Diversion (FAD) Program, Medicaid Programs; etc.
- ▶ Household Income also includes: Pensions, Retirement, Death Benefits, Veteran Payments, ANY & ALL type of Social Security Income (paid to self, spouse, ex-spouse, children, etc.) interest, dividends, cash withdrawn from savings (including 401k accounts); insurance payments; disaster relief payments; income from estates, trusts or investments; gifts or regular contributions from persons not living in the household; royalties, annuities, rental income, any military income/military disability payments of any kind; military education payments; military housing allowances Rental income, Tuition Support from any sources, gifts from family members, tax-exempt interest income, nontaxable IRA or Keogh payments, pastoral and military allowance, foster care allowance, veteran benefits, nontaxable pension or annuity payments, amount of school tuition the noncustodial parent is required to pay as a result of legal separation, divorce or paternity proceeding
- ▶ Child Support documentation (**proof of receiving or not receiving**) must be included for all your children, even for those you are **NOT** applying for School Choice scholarships. See **page 5 & 7** for more information
- ▶ You must include for your household income for other adult household members that may not be parents of the applicants.

DOCUMENTATION OF INCOME MUST BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR APPLICATION

PLEASE SEE PAGE 5 & 7 FOR MORE INFORMATION

FULLY COMPLETE THIS FORM! INCOMPLETE forms or forms **WITHOUT supporting** documentation are not accepted & will not be considered for a scholarship.

Personal information provided to SCS is not used for any purpose other than to validate need for financial aid. FAXED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
We ask for your social security number to verify the tax return information you are submitting to us. Social security numbers are retained in SCS's secure database

ADULT 1 Name _____ Home Address (no P.O. boxes): _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
Cell Phone: (____) _____ Home Phone: (____) _____ No Phone, but can be reached at: (____) _____

Marital Status (Circle one): Single Divorced Domestic Partnership Married Widowed
If Divorced– date of divorce & from who _____ Legally Separated -name of spouse, date of legal separation & county filed in: _____

Employer & Position: _____ Work Phone: (____) _____ Work during these hours: _____

Are you a legal resident of Jefferson OR Oldham County, Kentucky? Circle one: YES or NO IF NO, what county? _____

Number of Adults Living in the Home: _____ Names & Ages of All Adults Living in the Home: _____

Number of Children Living Full Time in the Home: _____ (21 & under and in school full time)

Names & Ages of All Children Living in the Home: _____

IF you **OWN** your home, list all names on your mortgage & Mortgage holder & their address: _____

IF you **RENT** your home, list all names on lease, give landlord's name, phone number & address of landlord: _____

Email Address you want School Choice to send **ALL** information to: _____

Give an email address you check **daily**, we send important scholarship information by email to you! We do not send out anything out by postal mail, due to the high cost & we can spend these funds on scholarships instead.

Secondary Email Address if have: _____

ADULT 2 Name in Household _____

Cell Phone: (____) _____ Home Phone: (____) _____ No Phone, but can be reached at: (____) _____

Marital Status (Circle one): Single Divorced Domestic Partnership Married Widowed
If Divorced– date of divorce & from who _____ Legally Separated -name of spouse, date of legal separation & county filed in: _____

Employer & Position: _____ Work Phone: (____) _____ Work during these hours: _____

FILL OUT FOR ALL CHILDREN YOU CLAIM AS MEMBERS OF YOUR HOME	CHILD'S FIRST, MIDDLE & LAST NAME ARE YOU APPLYING FOR A SCHOLARSHIP FOR THIS CHILD? YES OR NO?	CHILD'S BIRTH DATE- MONTH, DAY & YEAR ARE THEY A BOY OR GIRL?	CHILD'S RELATIONSHIP TO YOU EXAMPLES: I AM THEIR MOM, DAD, AUNT, GRANDMOTHER, FOSTER PARENT, ETC.	WHO LISTS CHILD AS DEPENDENT ON TAX RETURN? EXAMPLES: MOM, DAD, AUNT, GRANDMOTHER, FOSTER PARENT, ETC.	TODAY WHERE DOES THIS CHILD GO TO SCHOOL NOW? WHAT GRADE ARE THEY IN NOW?	AUGUST of 2012 WHAT SCHOOL DO YOU WANT THIS CHILD TO GO TO IN AUGUST OF 2012?? WHAT GRADE WILL THEY BE IN AUGUST OF 2012??
CHILD 1						
CHILD 2						
CHILD 3						
CHILD 4						
CHILD 5						
CHILD 6						
LIST CHILD 7, 8 ON SEPARATE PAPER						

2011 Total Household Financial Information:

Under a certain category, if you did not receive income -put none under that line's total

#1) Did any member of your household file a tax return in 2011? Circle one **YES** or **NO**

IF **YES**, Give Total Income from all Tax Returns filed in 2011

Line #1 Income Tax Return Total \$ _____

Types of returns include but are not limited to: Individual, Business, Corporations

IF **NO**, request a letter from the IRS you did not file taxes for 2010

Call the IRS at 800-829-1040 for this letter. Without this letter, your application will not be processed

#2) Give the Total Child Support &/or Alimony your household received in 2011

Line #2 Alimony Total \$ _____

Line #2 Child Support Total \$ _____

If you **are not married** to any or all of your child/children's fathers, for each child, you **must** include child support documentation (on payment/nonpayment)

Any of the following can be used for this documentation:

- a.) Divorce decree with child/ren's name on decree & CS order
- b.) CS Order within the last 3 years with children's name on CS order
- c.) Printout from the Child Support Office with (weekly/biweekly/monthly) amounts paid in 2011, with your name & the child's father/other parent name on these printouts
- d.) 6 months of monthly checking account statements, showing the monthly amounts directly deposited by the Child Support Office into your account
- e.) Private agreements: Minimum of 6 months of cancelled checks from the child's father/other parent for amounts paid directly to you or 6 months of your monthly checking account statements, showing the monthly amounts deposited
- f.) Letter, on their letterhead from the Child Support Office (dated within 30 days of your application date) documenting you do not receive any child support on this child, with the contact name & number of the CS worker on this letter

The Child Support office will provide this letter upon request by you

- ▶ Jefferson County CS office number is (502) 574-8300
- ▶ Oldham County CS office number is (502) 222-9655

Link to All Child Support Offices in KY: https://apps.chfs.ky.gov/Office_Phone/index.aspx?county=58

- g.) Pending CS court date paper work for upcoming first time CS support hearings
- h.) Letter, on the letterhead from the particular county's Child Support Office (dated within 30 days of your application date) that documents how much child support you received in 2011, contact name & number of your CS worker on the letter

#3) For any type of Social Security Income, give totals & type for adults &/or children in your home

Child Who & Type of SSI? _____

Line # 3 Child Social Security Total \$ _____

Adult Who & Type of SSI? _____

Line # 3 Adult Social Security Total \$ _____

#4) What State or Federal Aid did you receive in 2011?

List type/s: _____ Total Line # 4 \$ _____

Examples include but are not limited to: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Child Care benefits, EBT Benefits, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Kinship Care, Kentucky Transitional Assistance Program (K-TAP), Disaster Relief, Section 8 Benefits, Pell Grants, Kentucky Works Program (KWP), Family Alternatives Diversion (FAD) Program, Medicaid Programs

#5) Give TOTAL of all Other Income Earned &/or Received not included above:

List type/s: _____ Total Line # 5 \$ _____

Examples include but are not limited to: Rental income, Tuition Support from any sources, gifts from family members, tax-exempt interest income, nontaxable IRA or Keogh payments, pastoral and military allowance, foster care allowance, veteran benefits, nontaxable pension or annuity payments, amount of tuition the noncustodial parent is required to pay as a result of legal separation, divorce or paternity proceeding

#6) Total Household Income for 2011 (add #1 through #5 up)

Total \$ _____

Did you remember?

- ▶ To Answer **Questions 1 through 5** fully & list amounts for each?
- ▶ To include **all** your supporting documentation for all of the above (1-5)?
 - ▶ Applications **without** SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION are **not** accepted for scholarship consideration
 - ▶ Attach all documentation to **Page 9** with a paperclip (please do not staple)
 - ▶ Include a stamped postcard with your address on it, so we can let you know we got your application!
 - ▶ School Choice never verifies receipt of applications by phone, so please include your stamped postcard

GUARDIAN TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please Read Very Carefully Before Signing

I agree I have carefully and entirely read this Guardians Terms and Conditions Form for the School Choice Scholarships, Inc. program (also here known as (SCS and/or School Choice). I fully understand, that I am voluntarily applying to the School Choice Scholarships program and that noncompliance with the terms will result, if awarded, in my child/ren's scholarship being immediately revoked. I understand each of the conditions that I am agreeing to and consent to fully comply with these conditions, if awarded, of my child/ren's scholarship. I understand I am only at this time applying for a SCS scholarship and that there is NO guarantee that my child/ren will be awarded a SCS scholarship.

I certify that my child/children qualify for the Federal Free or Reduced Price Lunch Program. I certify that my child/ren live and attend school within the boundaries of Jefferson or Oldham County, Kentucky. I certify that I/we possess sufficient resources and funds, to cover tuition costs or other school fees not covered by any scholarship award.

I certify that all financial and other information provided with my application is true and complete. If I do not file taxes, I realize I am responsible for obtaining proof of this fact before applying to the SCS program. I realize this information will be verified with Internal Revenue Service, before my application will be accepted. If my child/ren are accepted into the SCS program and documentation/information is found to be fraudulent or any attempt to falsify documentation and/or information submitted to School Choice Scholarships, Inc. will result in my child's application and/or scholarship being immediately revoked and there will be no other obligations to us. If my child is currently in the SCS program when fraudulent information is found, no further monies will be paid for the scholarship. If our family is removed from the SCS program, we will be financially responsible to my child/ren's school(s) for any and all remaining monies. I realize all information included will be verified with any other applicable agencies. If I receive any type of benefits, all benefit letters have been included with this application and this information will also be verified applicable agencies. Scholarship grant awards are the sole responsibility of School Choice Scholarships, Inc. and all decisions are final and can not be appealed. I agree to fully release and hold harmless School Choice Scholarships, Inc., any and all its staff, Board of Directors, donors, schools and volunteers from any and all past, present and future liabilities in its efforts to provide this scholarship, projects, evaluation programs, meetings and programs.

I understand, accept that all information at Family Meetings presented is voluntarily presented and is not given as medical or other professional advice. If accepted into the SCS scholarship program, I agree, as requested by SCS, to have my child/children tested as needed in order to measure program success, to allow my child/children's image to be taken and used in marketing materials and to allow SCS access to my child/children's past, current and future school records.

I understand that my application and any documentation may be shared with outside research groups studies to increase knowledge about School Choice. I understand that part of the School Choice program is participation in outside research studies, to increase knowledge about School Choice.

If my child is accepted into the SCS program, I agree to attend no fewer than **4** (four) School Choice Scholarships Family Meetings/Events each year and complete a fall and spring survey by their due dates. I realize I must complete my fall survey before the first scholarship payment will be made for my child/ren in the fall of 2012. I realize that must attend **2** (two) events and complete my fall survey by December 2012, in order to receive any holiday type incentives that may be offered. If before February of 2013, I fail to attend **2** (two) events and my complete fall survey, no further scholarship payments will be made for my child that school year and my child will be removed immediately from the School Choice program and that my family will not be eligible to apply to the SCS program in any subsequent years. I realize if our family is removed from the SCS program, my family will be financially responsible to my child/ren's school(s) for any and all remaining monies due to the school(s).

Parent One or Guardian One's Printed Name

Parent Two or Guardian Two's Printed Name

Parent One or Guardian One's Signature

Parent Two or Guardian Two's Signature

Date: _____

Date: _____

Application Checklist & Reminder Page

For Tax Returns & Taxes:

- Include complete & signed 2011 Federal 1040 Tax Return for all income earners in your home, Include all pages of returns
 - Tax returns must include the names of all adults & children claimed as members of your household
- Income earners include: married couples, stepparents, unmarried couples living together, who may or may not be the biological parents of any or all children in the household and any other adult members of the household over 21, who do not currently attend school
- Married or unmarried couples who are filing separately must send **both** returns
 - Must include copies of all returns for your business, corporations, self employment, etc.
 - If you submit an incomplete tax return, your application **will not** be accepted.
 - For a copy of your 1040 or letter or non-filing of taxes letter, please call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040
 - If you **do not** file taxes- you must have a letter from the IRS documenting this fact for the prior tax year (2010)
If you do not include this IRS letter as documentation, your application will NOT be accepted.

For W2's & 1099's:

- Include copies of **all** 2011 W-2's or 1099's for all jobs, income & businesses, for all income earners in the household
Income earners include: married couples, stepparents, unmarried couples living together, who may or may not be the biological parents of any or all children in the household & any other adult members of the household over 21, not currently attending school

For Paystubs & Self-Employed:

- **2 current paystubs for each job** must be included (within 60 days of applying)
- If you are Self Employed- please include 2 months bank statements due to not having paychecks

For Child Support Documentation:

- Child Support Documentation must be included for **all** children, even those you are NOT applying for scholarships & for children you do not receive support on- see page 3 & 5 for more information

- **2 current, different types of utility bills** (within 60 days of applying)
Examples: telephone, electric, water, cable (within 60 days of the date of your signed application).
These must have the name & address of the adults who are applying for a scholarship.

- **No** handwritten notes or driver's licenses are ever accepted

Make Sure Your Application is Complete, Then Turn it In With All Required Documentation

by **March 30, 2012** to the school you want your child to attend in the Fall of 2012

Do NOT MAIL, EMAIL OR FAX your application to the School Choice office

**** Only applications sent in by schools are accepted ****

- Make sure to include Documentation of **any & all** other forms of income,
See page 3 & 5 for complete list

**Include a stamped postcard or envelope with your address on it,
if you want us to verify we got your application!**

Do not call the SCS office regarding your application status, no information is given over the phone.

All approval/denial letters will be mailed after the week of June 15, 2012

Make sure to keep copies of all the forms you submitted to our office for your records. You must notify us in writing of any change in address, phone number or school, etc. School Choice Scholarships is not responsible for lost or misdirected mail.

School Acknowledgement & Acceptance Form

This form should be completed by the school you want your child/ren to attend in the Fall of 2012
School should: 1.) Initial next to the conditions after reading them 2.) Circle or Fill in all needed information on this page
3.) Head of School signs/dates Form 4.) Only one form needs to be filled out per family!

Principal FILLS in EACH Child's Name & Initials Next to each below

Child First & Last Name/s: _____

- We certify that the applicant/s currently qualifies for the Federal Free or Reduced Price Lunch Program **OR**
- Our school does not currently participate in the Free or Reduced Price Lunch Program. We agree if our school applies for the Federal Lunch program, within **5** business days, we will inform School Choice Scholarships, Inc. (also here known as SCS and/or School Choice) of this fact.
- On all of our school's paperwork, this child/ren's parent/guardian information & home address information is the same as that given on the SCS application.
- We acknowledge that the parent or guardian must remain current on their portion of all fees and tuition payments to our school. We agree to monitor & report to School Choice, on the timely tuition payment status of each SCS recipient.
- We agree if requested, to provide access in a timely manner, to any academic and financial documentation for audit and assessment purposes by SCS or its designated representatives. We agree that SCS representatives will visit our school, at least two times a year to test, speak with and photograph SCS scholarship recipients. We agree to allow School Choice representatives access, as needed, to all school records. These records may include past, current, future records and any needed conversations/correspondence with school staff.
- We agree to inform School Choice of any and all discounts, tuition reductions, staff/teaching/alumni reductions, sibling reductions, hardship reductions, volunteer time reductions, member rates, scholarships, etc. any and all SCS families receive currently and in the future. We realize that failure to do so will end our participation in the SCS program.
- We agree that if this child/ren withdraw permanently from the school and/or on a temporary basis for more than **10** school days, we will inform School Choice within **5** business days of this fact. We agree that any outstanding monies due a school by a family, will not be deducted from the SCS refund amount.

PRINCIPAL INITIALS & FILL in for each below – attach separate page for child 5, 6, etc.

- Our school _____ agrees to participate in the School Choice program for the 2012-2013 school year.
Name of School
- We have admitted _____ into _____
Student's Name Accepted Grade 2012-2013 School Year
- We have admitted _____ into _____
Student's Name Accepted Grade 2012-2013 School Year
- We have admitted _____ into _____
Student's Name Accepted Grade 2012-2013 School Year
- We have admitted _____ into _____
Student's Name Accepted Grade 2012-2013 School Year

PRINCIPAL INITIALS, CIRCLE & FILL in for each below

- Above student/s **will receive** or **will not receive** family discount on tuition/fees _____ **List discount here**
- Above student/s **will receive** or **will not receive** member discount on tuition/fees _____ **List discount here**
- Above student/s **will receive** or **will not receive** staff discount on tuition/fees _____ **List discount here**
- Above student/s **will receive** or **will not receive** volunteer discount on tuition/fees _____ **List discount here**

BELOW LIST any & all currently applied for, already accepted, confirmed, possible discounts; church/priest discounts/reductions, possible pending reductions in payments; pending scholarships; AND/OR other child, family, scholarship/funding sources not already listed for the child or family.

SCS will confirm in July which from listed were granted before making final Scholarship Award AMOUNT from accepted students

PRINCIPAL PRINTS NAME, SIGNS, FILLS IN NAME OF SCHOOL & DATES

Principal's Printed Name _____ Principal's Signature _____ Name of School _____ Date _____

**ATTACH
ALL
SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTATION
HERE
PAPERCLIP
DO NOT
STAPLE!**