



New Online Platform Updates

The new Hope Scholarship online platform is now online. Schools, providers and students in awarded status have been sent links by email to claim their accounts in the new portal. Carryover funds are available in student accounts and the online marketplace is operating to place orders with service providers with approved services and order goods with whitelisted vendors via the TheoPay™ platform. Prospective students are able to submit new applications for consideration. More system functionality will be available in the coming days while we continue to progress through implementation.

Please remember the following:

- If you have not already done so, please log in to the new portal to ensure that your account transferred over properly.
- If your student will be attending a participating nonpublic school or microschool, please connect your student to the school in the online portal to ensure there are no delays in paying the first semester tuition and fees. If your student is not attending a nonpublic school or microschool, no action is needed.
- If you are placing orders via the TheoPay™ platform, new whitelisted vendors will be available soon. The original focus was on pulling in existing suppliers from the previous system, but a list of additional suppliers has been supplied to Student First Technologies to make available to our participating families as quickly as possible.
- The TheoPay™ platform will get “smarter” with time. If you receive a denial for a requested item that you believe should be eligible as a qualifying expense, please submit it for reconsideration so it can be manually reviewed. The system can learn from the manual decision and approve the item moving forward. Families should expect more denials in these early days of using this technology, but there is a mechanism in the system to get those denials reconsidered and overturned.

Please visit our website for [helpful videos](#) on how to utilize the new online portal. If you need further assistance, please contact our new Customer Service Center by phone at 681-999-HOPE or by email at help@hopescholarshipwv.com.



Keep an eye out for our updated look!

In addition to the new platform, Hope Scholarship is changing its official logo. Be aware that in the coming weeks, you will notice new designs on our official website, user platform, and other materials from the West Virginia State Treasurer's Office.

Returning to Public School in the Fall? Moved Out of State? Let Us Know!



If your child will be returning to public school for the 2024-2025 school year or has moved out of state, you are legally required to notify the Hope Scholarship Board that your child is returning to public school and will not be participating in the Hope Scholarship Program.

This notification can be accomplished by completing the online [Change in Student Status Form](#) or by emailing us at hopescholarshipwv@wvsto.gov.

If notifying us by email, please include your student's name, WVEIS ID#, and the reason your child will not be participating in the Hope Scholarship Program in the 2024-2025 school year.

Please note that if you fail to notify us and spend Hope Scholarship funds to which you are not legally entitled, this is against the law, and you will be held accountable to repay the Hope Scholarship Funds.

New Way to Submit Hope NOIs and Academic Progress Reporting to County Boards

The West Virginia Department of Education has assigned special email addresses to county boards of education for students exercising school choice options in West Virginia to submit required documentation to the county boards of education. **Use of the new email addresses will ensure that the documentation reaches the correct contact person who handles the Hope Scholarship on behalf of the county board of education.**

Hope Scholarship families are encouraged to use these new county email addresses to submit their Hope Scholarship Notice of Intent forms and the year-end academic reporting documentation (portfolio review or nationally normed academic test results) that is due June 8 annually. Nonpublic schools are encouraged to use the new email addresses to send the required annual enrollment confirmation of all Hope Scholarship students who attended the school for the academic year that is due June 8 annually.

When using the new county email addresses, please be sure to indicate in your email's subject line or in the body of the email that your child is a Hope Scholarship student. Traditional homeschool students who are not receiving Hope Scholarship funds will also be sending information to these special email addresses, so it is important that the county be able to easily identify Hope Scholarship emails upon receipt.

[A link to the list of county email addresses can be found HERE](#)



NOI Reminder!

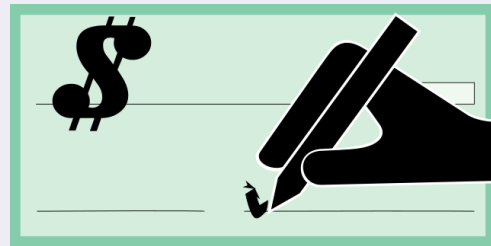
If your student will be participating in the Hope Scholarship Program for the first time for the 2024-2025 school year, please make sure you have submitted your student's Notice of Intent form to the county board of education.

Please submit this document before the start of the upcoming school year using your special county board of education email address in the link above.

Funding Update

The Hope Scholarship amount for the 2024-2025 year is \$4,921.39. The first semester funding amount is \$2,460.70 for those students receiving 100% of the scholarship.

Funds will be placed into student accounts in the new online portal by no later than August 15, 2024. Students who are first awarded the scholarship after August 1, 2024 will receive their funds as soon as practicable after their scholarship is awarded. Funding is generally processed once per month outside of the two main semester funding dates of August 15 and January 15 annually.



Legislative Rule Change Summary

During the Hope Scholarship Board's June meeting, a number of changes were adopted to the rules governing the Hope Scholarship Program that will impact families, schools, and providers. A brief summary of those changes is referenced below:

*The Board will now accept a valid and current West Virginia driver's license or other West Virginia issued identification card (when presented along with a second form of accepted proof of residency) to satisfy proof of West Virginia residency.

*The Board will no longer accept residential lease agreements as proof of West Virginia residency.

*An account holder must demonstrate the need for a student to repeat a grade in secondary school (i.e. high school) prior to the Board permitting the student to renew his or her account for an additional year of secondary school.

*Board staff may withhold or delay funding to a student's account if the notice of intent

(NOI) for Hope Scholarship Program participation has not been submitted as required by West Virginia law.

*Board staff may deny applications that are on hold for over 30 days after the account holder receives notice of missing, inaccurate, or incomplete information or documentation needed for the Board to approve the application.

*A student who fails to meet the statutory academic or attendance reporting requirements will not be permitted to submit a new application for the school year immediately following the year for which the student failed to meet the academic reporting requirements.

To review the complete legislative rules for the Hope Scholarship Program, please click [HERE](#).



2026-2027 Expansion

Treasurer Moore recently announced that the Hope Scholarship Program will expand to ALL existing private school and homeschooled students for the 2026-2027 school year.

[Expansion Press Release](#)

Important Upcoming Dates

August 15, 2024 – 2024-2025 first semester funding available to awarded students

September 15, 2024 – Application submission deadline for eligible students to receive 75% of the Hope Scholarship amount

November 30, 2024 – Application submission deadline for eligible students to receive 50% of the Hope Scholarship amount



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