

K12 Programs: Eligibility Requirements Updated for 2022-23

**Students must meet the following requirements to be eligible for each program.
Families can apply for both programs.**

Opportunity Scholarship

All Required

- Household must meet the Household Income Eligibility Guidelines (students in foster care are automatically eligible regardless of the household income of their foster family)
- At least 5 years old by August 31 or at least 4 by April 16 with private school administrator approval for kindergarten
- Lives in NC
- Has not graduated high school
- Has not enrolled in a post-secondary institution full-time*

One Required

- Received and used Opportunity Scholarship funds in previous year
- Attended a NC public school or Department of Defense school in NC as a full-time student**
- Entering kindergarten, 1st grade, or 2nd grade
- In foster care, or adopted within the last year
- Has a parent on full-time active military duty, or a parent who received an honorable discharge within the last year

ESA+

All Required:

- Is a child with a disability who requires special education, as documented by a NC public school IEP Eligibility Determination
- At least 5 years old by August 31 or at least 4 by April 16 with private school administrator approval for kindergarten
- Lives in NC
- Has not graduated from high school
- Has not enrolled in a post-secondary institution full-time*
- Eligible to attend public school in NC

Students who meet the criteria outlined above and have one of the following designated as the primary or secondary disability on the IEP Eligibility Determination may be eligible for a higher scholarship award than full-time students without these designated disabilities.

Terms listed in parentheses as they appear on the Eligibility Determination:

- Autism (Autism)
- Hearing Impairment (Hearing Impairment, Deafness, Deaf-Blindness)
- Moderate or Severe Intellectual or Developmental Disability (Intellectual Disability, Moderate or Severe)
- Multiple, Permanent Orthopedic Impairments (Orthopedic Impairment)
- Visual Impairment (Visual Impairment, Deaf-Blindness)

*Full-time: 12 or more credit hours in a given semester.

**Attendance in the spring semester prior, or attendance two years prior with private school attendance in between

For both programs, students funded in the prior year receive priority consideration.

For More Information:

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Nothing in this document should be construed to supersede the Program Statute, Program Rules or other Program policies. In addition, these policies do not represent an exhaustive list of all Program rules; rather these policies are set forth to provide a broad overview of the Program. See the Program Rules and Statutes on each Program's website for more details.