

**Choice Scholarship Program
Getting Started for Schools
2021-2022 School Year**

1. Read through the materials at the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) website at www.doe.in.gov/choice, especially the FAQ for Schools, as a starting point. These materials provide important background on rules and requirements for participating schools.
2. If your school is not currently accredited by the Indiana State Board of Education (SBOE) or an SBOE recognized accrediting agency, you must complete the appropriate process for accreditation (IC 20-51-1-4.7). Schools with accreditation that expires before or during the school year must provide proof of renewal prior to August 1, 2021. For accreditation related questions, please contact the Office of Accountability and Accreditation at schoolaccountability@doe.in.gov.
3. Begin the school application process by submitting the following documents **as a single pdf** to ChoiceSchool@doe.in.gov:
 - School Application Cover Sheet (see page two of this document)**
 - School Application Form, 54705 (R9/11-19)**, found on our website at www.doe.in.gov/Choice.
 - 2021-2022 Admissions Policy** - This must be the final policy, approved by your school's governing body, for the 2021-2022 school year.
 - 2021-2022 Tuition and Fees Policy** - This must be the final policy, approved by your school's governing body, for the 2021-2022 school year. *For additional information regarding tuition and fees, please see our guidance document, posted in the Nonpublic School Community in Moodle.*
 - 2021-2022 Discounts Policy**
 - Descriptions of all Fees and Discounts**
 - Proof of Accreditation**, if you are accredited by any agency other than the State Board of Education.
 - Choice School Contact Form**, found in the Nonpublic School Community in Moodle.
 - Special Education Assurance Form**, found in the Nonpublic School Community in Moodle.
4. Schools will be sent a letter by email when IDOE approves the school's application and the school's information will be listed on the IDOE website as a resource for parents. The letter will detail the steps schools should take to fully enroll in the Choice Scholarship Program.
5. Register on the Nonpublic School Community in Moodle at moodle.in.gov.
6. Review Choice Certification slides and 2021-2022 documents posted in the Nonpublic School Community in Moodle, including documents that are required to be kept as documentation for student applications.
7. Review the documents available at www.doe.in.gov/choice.
8. If any changes need to be made to your school's contact information, please complete an updated Choice Contact Form and email to choiceschool@doe.in.gov.



**2021-2022 Choice Scholarship Program
School Application Cover Sheet**

I affirm that the following documents are attached:

- Completed 2021-2022 Choice School Application [Form 54705(R9/11-19)]
- Finalized 2021-2022 Admissions Policy
- Finalized 2021-2022 Tuition and Fees Policy
- Finalized 2021-2022 Discount Policy
- Descriptions of all Fees and Discounts
- Proof of Accreditation (if not State accredited)
- Completed Choice Contact Form
- Completed Special Education Assurance Form

By signing below, I agree to the following:

I attest that all required policies are final. Any alterations to the approved policy must be submitted to the Department immediately for review.

I acknowledge that any tuition, fee, and/or discount amount that is not included as part of our school application cannot be included in the tuition and fees amount entered on a Choice student application.

I acknowledge that the approval of the Choice school application by IDOE does not qualify all included tuition, fee, and/or discount amounts for use on Choice student applications. The school must use the guidance provided by IDOE when using any tuition, fees, and /or discounts to calculate student tuition and fees for the Choice student application.

Printed Name

Date

Signature

Title



**INDIANA'S CHOICE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
SCHOOL APPLICATION**

State Form 54705 (R9 / 11-19)
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Name of school		School number	Grades served by the school	School year
Address of school (<i>number and street, city, state, and ZIP code</i>)				
Internet address				
Name and title of school leader		Telephone number ()	E-mail address	
Name and title of secondary school contact		Telephone number ()	E-mail address	
Name of accrediting body			Accreditation expiration date (<i>month, day, year</i>)	

ASSURANCES

As a condition of becoming an eligible school, the school makes the following assurances by the representative's signature:

School acknowledges that if a student is found to be ineligible due to inaccurate, incorrect, or falsified information, the award may be adjusted or rescinded.

School assures that it will assist students with completing the Choice Scholarship student application, and will not refuse to assist any student who provides supporting documentation of eligibility with completing the application, and will provide a copy of all communications from the Department intended for the family.

School will administer accountability assessments, including those statewide assessments required under IC 20-32-5.1, to all students at the testing grade levels and participate in all required training and security measures.

School may be subject to consequences based on its placement in a category or designation of school performance or the inability of the school to be placed in a performance category.

School will not discriminate against any potential students based on race, color, national origin, or disability, and will follow the school's admissions policy in regard to Choice Scholarship students.

School agrees to submit a copy of its admissions policy and its tuition and fees policy and rates as part of its application to become an eligible Choice school.

If the number of applicants for enrollment in an eligible school under a Choice Scholarship exceeds the number of Choice Scholarships available to the school, the eligible school must comply with the requirements of IC 20-51-4-3.

School will not transfer or attempt to transfer the Choice Scholarship to any other student.

School agrees to inform the Department via the Enrollment and Mobility (EM) Report within five (5) business days of a Choice Scholarship student being withdrawn, expelled, or not in attendance for twenty (20) consecutive school days, according to the Department's rule. (512 IAC 4-1-5)

School acknowledges that retroactive reimbursement to the State of Indiana may be required and/or future payments may be adjusted as a result of the withdrawal or expulsion of a student or changes in the law.

School agrees to participate in any data collections required by the Department pursuant to IC 20-51-1-4.7, IC 20-51-4-6, IC 20-51-4-7, IC 20-51-4-10, or 512 IAC 3 and 4.

School understands and agrees to the requirement that parents or guardians must co-sign an endorsement form provided by the Department for the distribution of monies on a schedule set by the Department.

Upon eligibility, school agrees to complete and file a vendor application with the Indiana Auditor of State.

School agrees to provide prospective parents with a statement about any costs beyond the required fees, including whether the school participates in the Free / Reduced Lunch Program. School acknowledges that any fees in excess of the amount of the Choice Scholarship must be funded through other sources.

School agrees to provide prospective parents with information about transportation, including whether it is provided and whether the school is located along any existing bus routes that may be utilized.

School acknowledges that, by July 1 of the upcoming school year, it will have a staff performance evaluation plan as required by IC 20-28-11.5-4(a) and (b).

School shall certify to the Department annually that the eligible school is complying with the following legal requirements and that the school will cooperate with any visit made to the school or audit of the school's records by the Department to verify compliance with these provisions, including granting the Department reasonable access to its premises. School further understands that violation of any of the following requirements under the law or failure to comply with these assurances is grounds for loss of eligibility, and has the right to an administrative hearing upon loss of eligibility.

School will input tuition and fees amount the student is required to pay, taking into account any applicable discounts for which the student may qualify.

Notify the Department when an employee with a Department-issued license is convicted of certain felonies. (IC 20-28-5-8)

Conduct expanded criminal history checks and expanded child protection index checks for all employees or contracted individuals who will have "direct, ongoing contact with children." (IC 20-26-5-10)

ASSURANCES (continued)

Grant parental access to student records. (IC 20-33-7)

For Choice Scholarship students with disabilities the Choice school assures that:

- (1) Choice school staff will inform the parent(s) of a student with a disability about the special education services available from the Choice school so that the parent is able to make an informed choice in selecting either the Choice school or the public school to provide special education to the student.
- (2) Choice school staff will collaborate with the student's parent(s) to develop the student's Choice Special Education Plan.
- (3) Each student's Choice Special Education Plan will be in writing and will be implemented only after obtaining the parent's written consent.
- (4) Choice school staff will inform the parents of: (a) the requirement that the plan can be implemented only with the parent's written consent; (b) the parent's right to revoke the consent; and (c) the consequences of revoking consent.
- (5) Progress reports will be provided to the student's parent(s) as described in the Choice Special Education Plan.

School agrees to follow 511 IAC 7-49-11 regarding Choice Special Education Plans if the school chooses to provide special education services to Choice students.

An eligible school may allow a principal or teacher to read or post in the school building or classroom or at a school event any excerpt or part of a writing, document, or record listed below.

An eligible school may not permit the content based censorship of American history or heritage based on religious references in a writing, document, or record listed below.

A library, a media center, or an equivalent facility that an eligible school maintains for student use must contain in the facility's permanent collection at least one copy of each writing or document listed (1) through (9) below.

- (1) The Constitution of the United States
- (2) The national motto
- (3) The national anthem
- (4) The Pledge of Allegiance
- (5) The Constitution of the State of Indiana
- (6) The Declaration of Independence
- (7) The Mayflower Compact
- (8) The Federalist Papers
- (9) "Common Sense" by Thomas Paine.
- (10) The writings, speeches, documents, and proclamations of the founding fathers and presidents of the United States.
- (11) United States Supreme Court decisions.
- (12) Executive orders of the presidents of the United States.
- (13) Frederick Douglas' Speech at Rochester, New York, on July 5, 1852, entitled "What to a Slave is the Fourth of July?".
- (14) Appeal by David Walker.
- (15) Chief Seattle's letter to the United States government in 1852 in response to the United States government's inquiry regarding the purchase of tribal lands.

An eligible school shall do the following:

- (1) Allow a student to include a reference to a writing, document, or record listed in subsection (b) in a report or other work product.
- (2) May not punish the student in any way, including a reduction in grade, for using the reference.
- (3) Display the United States flag in each classroom.
- (4) Provide a daily opportunity for students to voluntarily recite the Pledge of Allegiance in each classroom or on school grounds. A student may not be required to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance if the student or his or her parent of guardian chooses to not participate.
- (5) Provide instruction on the constitutions of Indiana and the United States.

For an eligible school that enrolls students in grades 6 through 12, provide within the two weeks preceding a general election five full class periods discussion concerning:

- (1) the system of government in Indiana and in the United States;
- (2) methods of voting;
- (3) party structures;
- (4) election laws; and
- (5) the responsibilities of citizen participation in government and in elections.

An eligible school must require that each teacher employed by the school present instruction with special emphasis on:

- (1) honesty;
- (2) morality;
- (3) courtesy;
- (4) obedience to law;
- (5) respect for the national flag and the Constitutions of the United States and Indiana;
- (6) respect for parents and the home;
- (7) the dignity and necessity of honest labor; and
- (8) other lessons of a steadying influence that tend to promote and develop an upright and desirable citizenry.

Provide good citizenship instruction that stresses the nature and importance of the following:

- (1) Being honest and truthful.
- (2) Respecting authority.
- (3) Respecting the property of others.
- (4) Always doing the student's personal best.
- (5) Not stealing.
- (6) Possessing the skills (including methods of conflict resolution) necessary to live peaceably in society and not resorting to violence to settle disputes.
- (7) Taking personal responsibility for obligations to family and community.
- (8) Taking personal responsibility for earning a livelihood.
- (9) Treating others the way the student would want to be treated.
- (10) Respecting the national flag, the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Indiana.
- (11) Respecting the student's parents and home.
- (12) Respecting the student's self.
- (13) Respecting the rights of others to have their own views and religious beliefs.

Provide instruction in Language arts, including English, grammar, composition, speech, and second languages, Mathematics, Social studies and citizenship, including the constitutions, governmental systems, and Indiana and United States history, including study of the Holocaust and the role religious extremism played in the events of September 11, 2001, Sciences, Fine arts, including music and art, Health education, physical fitness, safety, and the effects of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, and other substances on the human body.

Signature of authorized agent

Title of authorized agent

Date (month, day, year)

Choice Scholarship Program
Special Education Assurance Form for Schools
2021-2022 School Year

The Choice school must decide if it will offer special education services to eligible students. If so, the Choice school must identify what services it is willing and able to provide.

In accordance with 511 IAC 7-49-11, each Choice school serving Choice Scholarship students with disabilities understands and agrees to adhere to the following assurances:

- When an eligible Choice Scholarship student with a disability requiring special education and related services applies, the Choice school must:
 - ◇ Inform the parent/guardian what special education and related services it can accommodate and make available;
 - ◇ Inform the parent/guardian they may select the Choice school or the public school corporation where the school is located to provide special education and related services to the Choice student; and,
 - ◇ Reflect the parent/guardian's selection of the special education service provider on the Choice Scholarship application and Special Education Service Provider Selection Form.
- If the parent/guardian selects the Choice school as the special education service provider, the Choice school must take the following actions:
 - ◇ The Choice school and the Choice Scholarship student's parent/guardian must meet to determine the student's special education needs.
 - The school must meet with the parent/guardians "within a reasonable time after the Choice Scholarship student enrolls..."
 - ◇ The Choice school must create a Choice Special Education Plan (CSEP).
 - ◇ The parent/guardian's written consent must be obtained to implement the CSEP.
 - ◇ The Choice school must provide special education and related services as stated in the CSEP.
- By law (511 IAC 7-49-4), a Choice Special Education Plan must contain the following components:
 - ◇ The CSEP must be in writing;
 - ◇ The CSEP must include measurable goals for the student;
 - ◇ Information on how the student's progress will be monitored;
 - ◇ Information on how the parent/guardians will be informed of the student's progress;
 - ◇ to participate in statewide assessments;
 - ◇ The length, frequency, and duration of the special education and related services to be provided;
 - ◇ for the Choice school to implement the CSEP;
 - ◇ providing a signed, written statement revoking consent;
 - ◇ A statement to inform the parent/guardian that revocation of consent encompasses the entire CSEP;
 - ◇ will stop implementing the CSEP; and,
 - ◇ Signature of the parent/guardian.

- Upon receipt of a written revocation of services from the Choice student’s parent/guardian, the Choice school agrees to immediately provide written notice to the public school corporation of the revocation and provide the public school corporation with a copy of the student’s CSEP.
- If the parent/guardian of a Choice Scholarship student requests an evaluation of the Choice student, the public school corporation shall conduct the reevaluation in accordance with 511 IAC 7-40-8 and the Choice school shall collaborate with the public school corporation and share all relevant information applicable to the reevaluation.

If the Choice school decides not to provide special education services, then special education services will be made available from the public school corporation where the Choice school is located. If the Choice school does not provide the special education services, then the Choice school is not eligible to receive special education funding.

Signature of Authorized Agent

Date (month/day/year)

Printed Name of Authorized Agent

Printed Title of Authorized Agent

Choice School Name _____

Choice School Number _____



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. Katie Jenner
Secretary of Education

Working Together for Student Success

**Choice Scholarship Program
Choice School Contact Form
2021-2022 School Year**

All data fields must be completed.

School Number

School Name

School Mailing Address:

Street

City

State

Zip

Primary Contact Person for the Choice Scholarship Program:

Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Extension

School Principal/Director:

Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Extension

School Business Manager, Treasurer, or Finance Official:

Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Extension

Person Responsible for Submitting Data and Reports:

Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Extension

Corporation Test Coordinator:

Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Extension

*If there is a change to your Corporation Test Coordinator, it is important to email INassessments@doe.in.gov to let the assessment team know of the change.

If any contact information for the personnel listed above changes, a new form must be submitted to ChoiceSchool@doe.in.gov.

Choice Scholarship Program
Guidance Regarding Fees and Discounts
2021-2022 School Year

This document provides guidance to schools regarding which fees should be included and which discounts should be applied to the tuition and fees amount entered on a Choice Scholarship application. The amounts of fees and discounts are determined by your school's governing body, and the final tuition and fees policy should be included in your school's application to participate in the Choice Scholarship Program.

The school's tuition and fees policy and rates must be included in the school application. All discount policies should be included, even if they are not publicized in school documents for prospective families. Any changes to the school's tuition and fees policy and rates must be submitted as an amendment to your school's application for approval before the school application deadline.

An eligible Choice Scholarship student should be charged the same tuition and fees, and receive the same discounts and reductions of tuition, as a similarly situated non-Choice Scholarship student attending the same eligible school.

An eligible school may not charge eligible choice scholarship students tuition and fees that are in amounts that differ from what the eligible school charges similarly situated non-Choice Scholarship students. All fees and discounts must be applied uniformly to all students.

This document is intended as guidance, addresses the most common discounts and fees, and is not all inclusive.

Fees

Include:

- Tuition
- Book Fees*
- Educational Field Trip Fees
- Technology Fees
- Registration Fees

Exclude:

- Non-Educational Field Trip Fees
- Room and Board Fees
- Athletic Fees
- Optional Fees
- Extra-Curricular Fees
- Other Non-Educational Fees

*If book fees are included in the amount submitted on a student's Choice Scholarship application, the school cannot submit a request to the IDOE for Curricular Materials Assistance (TB).

Discounts

Include:

- Parishioner/Denominational
- Sibling
- Employee

Exclude:

- Fundraising
- SGO Award Amount
- Internal Financial Assistance ([Needs Based](#))
- Scholarships