



# BISHOP DWENGER HIGH SCHOOL

May 2023

Dear Bishop Dwenger Families:

Recent legislative changes related to the School Choice program have been approved and will go into effect on **June 29, 2023**. The following changes have been approved:

- The eligibility pathways/tracks have been removed
- Financial eligibility increased from 300% to 400% of Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility

For a family to qualify for School Choice **after June 29, 2023**, there are only two factors to consider: being an Indiana Resident and Household Income. The income limits will be published on our website once the state publishes the official income limits. We will post updates in the Halo and website as they become available.

The current eligibility guidelines below will remain in effect until June 29, 2023:

A student can qualify in one of the following ways: (note: this will be eliminated on June 29, 2023)

1. **Previous Choice Scholarship Student Track:** Student received a Choice Scholarship in a previous school year, including a school year that does not immediately precede the school year for which the student is applying for a Choice Scholarship. Student is a member of a household with an annual income equal to or below 300% of the amount to qualify for the Federal Free or Reduced Lunch Program.
2. **Previous SGO Award Track:** The student received an SGO Scholarship from an approved Scholarship Granting Organization in a previous school year, including a school year that does not immediately precede the school year for which the student is applying for a Choice Scholarship, and the student is a member of a household with an annual income equal to or below 300% of the amount to qualify for the Federal Free or Reduced Lunch Program.
3. **Sibling Track:** The sibling of the newly applying student received either a Choice Scholarship or an SGO award in a previous school year, including a school year that does not immediately precede the school year for which the student is applying for a Choice Scholarship and is a member of a household with an annual income equal to or below 300% for the amount to qualify for the Federal Free or Reduced Lunch Program.
4. **Special Education Track:** The student has a disability that requires special education services, an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) has been developed for the student, and the student is a member of a household with an annual income equal to or below 300% of the amount to qualify for the Federal Free or Reduced Lunch Program.
5. **Two Semesters in a Public School Track:** The student was enrolled in a public school in Indiana for at least two semesters *immediately* preceding the first semester for which the student is applying for a Choice Scholarship and is a member of a household with an annual income equal to or below 300% of the amount to qualify for the Federal Free or Reduced Lunch Program.
6. **Foster Track:** The student must be placed in foster care as defined by Indiana Code and provide supporting documentation from a DSC Case Worker. Foster children are automatically income eligible for the Choice Scholarship Program and do not require household size and income.

The following chart shows the current income guidelines established by the state for the **2023-2024 school year**. It must be noted, tax returns for **ALL** persons living in a household (physical address) must be submitted to show the total household income. These limits will increase on June 29, 2023 (the new limits have not been officially released).

2023-2024 School Year Choice Scholarship Program Income Limits by Household Size	
Household Size	Annual Household Income Limit 300% of Free/Reduced Lunch Eligibility
1	\$80,919.00
2	\$109,446.00
3	\$137,973.00
4	\$166,500.00
5	\$195,027.00
6	\$223,554.00
7	\$252,081.00
8	\$280,608.00
9	\$309,135.00
10	\$337,662.00
2023-2024 ESTIMATED Award Amounts	
School District	Estimated Award Amounts
FWCS	\$6,610.74
EACS	\$6,360.16
NWAC	\$5,787.55
SWAC	\$5,830.05

*This information reflects current law and may be subject to change after the current session of the Indiana General Assembly.*

If you meet one of the above qualifications, you may be eligible for an Indiana Choice Scholarship. If you think you may qualify, please contact Kim Cochran at [kcochran@bishopdwenger.com](mailto:kcochran@bishopdwenger.com) or 260-496-4705, to discuss it further or send in your 2022 1040 tax return for review. When using email, please put “*Choice Scholarship*” in the subject line. The application can be processed, and the necessary papers sent back to you in the mail to sign off and return.

In order to apply, we will need your 2022 tax return showing your adjusted gross income for **all household members** in addition to family size, with the names of all dependents including your Bishop Dwenger student. If the number of dependents exceeds the number listed on the first page of the tax return, please provide a copy of the statement listing the names of the additional dependents.

We look forward to working with each family that qualifies and putting this valuable scholarship money to good use for your Bishop Dwenger student during the 2023-2024 school year.