

# House Bill 200 -Ohio Opportunity Scholarship

Bill Sponsor: Representative Kyle Koehler

## All parents should have access to the best educational fit for their children.

House Bill 200, sponsored by Representative Koehler, creates the *Ohio Opportunity Scholarship*- combining the Cleveland Scholarship and EdChoice programs into one statewide scholarship program making it easier for parents to access. The *Ohio Opportunity Scholarship* would provide families (up to 300% Federal Poverty Level) the opportunity to choose the best learning environment for their child. Scholarships are fully funded at \$5000 (k-8) and \$7500 (9-12). *For example a family of four earning \$73,800 would qualify. (See chart)*

Household Size	Federal Poverty Level (FPL)			
	100%	200%	250%	300%
1	\$12,060	\$24,120	\$30,015	\$36,180
2	16,240	32,480	40,600	48,720
3	20,420	40,840	51,050	61,260
4	24,600	49,200	61,500	73,800
5	28,780	57,560	71,950	86,340
6	32,960	65,920	82,400	98,880
7	37,140	74,280	92,850	111,420
8	41,320	82,640	103,300	123,960

### Why advocates support House Bill 200:

- As a parent, I could qualify for this program.
- My school could benefit from this legislation.
- I don't qualify for this program, but I believe we are to care for and advocate for the least among us, whether that's in my neighborhood, or somewhere else in Ohio.
- Parents should be able to choose the school that is the best fit for their child. A family's address or income should not stop them from making the best educational choice for their child. Low income students should be provided options instead of being limited by their address and means.
- Consolidation of the current three state scholarship programs makes it easier for parents to navigate and for the state to administer.
- Working families earning up to 300% of Federal Poverty are already stretched, they don't need the added stress of not being able to afford private options for their child if their current school isn't a good fit.
- State education dollars should follow the child to where parents feel is the best choice. For example, families could choose to live anywhere and not be limited to a certain school district.
- Existing scholarship students will not lose their scholarships; instead their siblings will be eligible. This scholarship would remove the anxiety and uncertainty that comes from the current program.
- This program provides opportunity and control for poor families whose children are amongst the greatest risk.
- Many private schools are located in low income neighborhoods. Parents shouldn't be forced to move away from their community in order to access a good, safe, education for their child.
- I believe it is the state's duty to make sure that taxpayer money is spent wisely and funding is available for the education of all students. State education dollars should follow the child to where parents feel is the best fit for their student.

## The legislature will soon be voting on HB 200.

## We need your help to let legislators know to vote yes on HB 200!

### What you can do today to help pass House Bill 200:

1. **Call & Email** your legislators to tell them why you support the Opportunity Scholarship.
2. **Request a Meeting** with your state representative and share your support HB 200.

Use your zip code to look up your legislators here:

<https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislators/find-my-legislators>