



West Virginia Hope Scholarship Non-Qualifying (Unallowable) Expense List

Adopted by Motion on August 7, 2025

The following items have been disapproved by the West Virginia Hope Scholarship Board for expenditure under the West Virginia Hope Scholarship Program. This list is not intended to be comprehensive. Additional items that are predominantly for personal use or that pose a high risk of fraud would also fall into this category and may be added by Board staff as identified.

- Excessive quantities of allowable items.
- Allowable items with excessive/unreasonable costs.
- Items or services purchased prior to Hope Scholarship funds being available in the student's Hope Scholarship online platform account, even if the item would have otherwise been considered a qualifying expense. This includes but is not limited to expenses incurred for a preceding school year.
- Items considered primarily to be home theater equipment, including but not limited to game consoles or multi-media gaming accessories.
- Travel fees or costs associated with educational field trips or other off-site learning experiences, including but not limited to transportation costs, parking fees, the cost of food purchased during the trip, and the cost of hotels or lodging.
- Household furniture, including but not limited to, desks, chairs, bookcases, couches, tables, and storage organizers; Provided that specialized seating for students with disabilities is allowable, with specialized seating in excess of \$1,000 requiring submission of documentation to support the student's disability.
- Virtual reality equipment
- Apple watches and/or fitness tracking watches/devices
- Analog watches
- Theme/amusement/water park admissions (ex: Disney, Universal, Camden Park, etc.)
- Movie theater admissions
- Live animals and any associated expenses (except for insect kits)
- Beekeeping suits in excess of \$200
- Exercise equipment in excess of \$500
- Athletic equipment in excess of \$500
- Family memberships of any type
- Pool tables
- Arcade games or visits

- Sports uniforms
- Performance costumes (ex: dance recitals, etc.)
- Travel sports, including tournament registration fees and any travel costs or fees
- Ski equipment rental and ski lift tickets
- Television/entertainment streaming services (ex: Netflix, Disney+, Hulu, Peacock, etc.)
- Televisions
- Telephones
- Gift cards of any kind
- Groceries/food (Exceptions: 1. Student lunch fees charged by a participating school for lunches consumed on school premises during the school day 2. Educational subscription boxes that include some food ingredients, provided that a lesson plan is included in the box.)
- Medications, vitamins & supplements
- Weapons & ammunition
- Jewelry
- Appliances
- Playground & lawn equipment (ex: ninja warrior courses)
- Any clothing item other than a school uniform or a sensory compression/weighted vest
- Any transportation related expenses incurred directly by a parent or guardian (ex: gasoline, diesel, etc.)
- Professional development/conferences for Hope Scholarship parents/account holders.
- Consulting services, training, assistance, or advice provided to a Hope Scholarship student's parent, account holder, or other person.
- Home internet service
- Trees
- Shrubbery
- Toys other than puzzles, molding clay/play-do, kinetic sand, educational board games or specific toys recommended by a physician or therapist for students with disabilities
- Cookware, other household cooking equipment or cooking accessories, including but not limited to pots, pans, small kitchen appliances, utensils, chicken pluckers, honey extractors, cauldrons, and distillation equipment
- Shoes and other footwear
- Bikes and helmets
- Lifetime subscriptions or memberships, except for Rosetta Stone
- Laminating machines in excess of \$300
- Metal detectors
- Arts/Crafts related supplies and equipment in excess of \$500
- Cameras and camera accessories in excess of \$500
- 3D Scanners in excess of \$500
- Table Tennis/Ping Pong tables
- Trampolines

- Paper Shredders
- Gardening-related equipment, including but not limited to greenhouses, raised garden beds, in excess of \$200 in total per type of item
- Fertilizer and chemical treatments including but not limited to insect spray, Miracle Grow, fungus treatments, weed killer, etc.
- Composters in excess of \$150
- Chicken Brooders/Heat Lamps and Chicken Coops in excess of \$400
- Bird feeders, including those with cameras, in excess of \$200
- Pet supplies
- Livestock equipment, including but not limited to electric fencing
- Hunting and fishing licenses
- Tents
- Music albums
- Tourmaline crystal towers
- Two-way radios in excess of \$100
- Refurbished or used technology equipment