



2025-26 Applications Now Open!



New 2025-26 applications are now being accepted until June 15, 2025, for eligible students to receive 100% of the Hope Scholarship amount.

All new applicants for the 2025-26 school year must meet one of the three eligibility pathways highlighted on the [Hope Scholarship website](#). For more information on new applications for 2025-2026, please see our recent [Press Release](#).

Students currently participating in the program must submit their Continued Participation Confirmation (CPC) in the Hope Scholarship Portal by June 15, 2025. Late CPCs will not be accepted.

Reminder: Second Semester Tuition and Fees

If your student attends a participating nonpublic or microschool and you have not yet pushed the button to pay your second semester tuition and fees, please log into the Hope Scholarship online portal to do so.

Click on the blue "My School" tile and then push the blue button to pay tuition and fees for the second semester. Review the amounts and push submit on the pop-up screen. If you experience any technical difficulties with this process, please contact the Hope Engagement Center at 681-999-HOPE or help@hopescholarshipwv.com.



Non-Qualified Expense List Changes

The Hope Scholarship Board met on February 27, 2025 and made several updates to the Board's Non-Qualifying Expense list. The updated list of unallowable items can be found [here](#). Significant changes adopted by the Board include the following:

- Adoption of an exception to the prohibition on furniture to allow specialized seating for students with disabilities. Specialized seating purchases in excess of \$1,000 will require submission of documentation to support the student's disability.
- Adoption of an exception to the prohibition on clothing to allow sensory compression/weighted vests.
- Removal of white boards in excess of 24 inches by 24 inches from the list, allowing Hope Scholarship students to purchase white/dry erase boards of any dimensions moving forward.
- Removal of prohibition on motorized exercise equipment and instead instituted a \$500 price limit on all exercise equipment (motorized and non-motorized).
- Affirmed the Board's existing prohibition on the purchase of cameras.
- Added the following items to the Board's Non-Qualifying Expense list:
 - Athletic Equipment in excess of \$500
 - Analog watches
 - Paper Shredders
 - Arts and crafts related supplies and equipment in excess of \$500
 - Ski equipment rental and ski lift tickets
 - Chicken Coops and Brooders in excess of \$400
 - Hunting and Fishing Licenses
 - Used or refurbished Technology Equipment

Reimbursement Policy Updates

The Hope Scholarship Board also adopted several amendments to the Board's Reimbursement Policy. The updated policy can be found [here](#). Significant changes included the following:

- Updated the provision to allow reimbursement due to a documented disability or other specialized educational need that requires a specific service, supply, or piece of equipment and a substantially similar service, supply, or piece of equipment is not offered by an approved Hope Scholarship education service provider or vendor within 30 miles of the student's home. Prior to this amendment, Board staff were unable to approve reimbursement requests if there was a provider providing the service in the portal even if that provider was hours away from the student.
- Added a provision to allow reimbursements in situations with procedural errors by a county board of education or the West Virginia Department of Education.
- Clarified that books (fiction and nonfiction) are considered curriculum for reimbursement purposes.

- Added a provision to allow for the reimbursement of out-of-pocket digital subscriptions for curriculum or other digital learning tools that do not involve live instruction.
- Added a provision that requires all reimbursement requests to be submitted within 90 days of the date of purchase of the item being requested for reimbursement.

Two-Year Technology Limitations

The Hope Scholarship Board adopted a motion at the February 27, 2025 meeting to clarify that 3D printers are considered a separate category than “regular” printers in the Board’s two-year technology limit policy. Regular printers include traditional paper printers, sticker printers, photo printers, etc. This interpretation will allow a Hope Scholarship student to purchase both a 3D printer and a “regular” printer every two years.

Academic Portfolio Review

As a reminder, year-end academic reporting for Hope Scholarship students is due June 8th annually. The majority of Individualized Instructional Plan students have historically utilized an academic portfolio review by a certified teacher to satisfy this requirement.

Currently, families do not have the ability to easily filter by service type in the Hope Scholarship online marketplace. To help make it easier for Hope Scholarship families to connect with providers with approved service offerings to perform academic portfolio reviews, below is a list of all approved Hope Scholarship service providers with approved service offerings for academic portfolio review as of March 4, 2025. Additional providers could be added in the future.

Brittany Neal	WV Homeschool Portfolio Reviews LLC
Pathfinder Institute	Dancing Sun
Carole O'Sullivan	Whole Child Tutoring and Coaching
Santini Educational Consulting	From the Ground Up Learning
Cassandra Smith	Wild & Wonderful Enrichment
Stephanie Johnson	Homeschool Freedom
Covenant Family Classical Academy	Young Educational & Administrative Support Service
Thinking, Learning, Growing	iReading Tutor, LLC
Creative Family Resources	

As a reminder, Academic Portfolio Reviews are not reimbursable under the Board’s reimbursement policy. While you can utilize any certified teacher to do your student’s academic portfolio, if you want to pay for it with Hope Scholarship funds, you must place an order for the service and pay directly through the Hope Scholarship online portal.

If you know a certified teacher who provides this service and wishes to participate in the Hope Scholarship Program, they can complete the [HOPE Scholarship Program New Provider Request Form](#) on the website.

New TheoPay Vendors

Several new TheoPay vendors were added in the Hope Scholarship online portal since the last newsletter. Those vendors include the following:

- Discovery Toys – *As a reminder, most toys are included on the Board’s Non-Qualifying Expense list, but the provider was whitelisted to help facilitate allowable exceptions under that policy.*
- Craft Tech
- Crafter
- Play Piper, LLC
- Guide Dots
- Oak Meadow, Inc.
- Headline Books
- Honest History
- West Virginia Book Company
- Seton Home Study Bookstore
- Lila Bear Explores

Important Upcoming Dates

- June 8, 2025: Year-end academic reporting due to the county board of education.
- June 15, 2025: Last day to submit CPCs for 2025-2026 and last day for new applicants to apply for 100% scholarship funding for 2025-2026.
- June 16, 2025: First day of the 75% funding window for new applications for 2025-2026



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