



2025-2026 Year-End Academic Reporting Requirements Reminder

As a reminder, there are **academic/attendance reporting requirements** for all participating Hope Scholarship students which are **due no later than June 8** annually to the county superintendent of the student's county of residence.

For students attending a **nonpublic school**, the nonpublic school must submit confirmation of each Hope Scholarship student's enrollment and attendance in their school to the local county superintendent of the student's county of residence. The nonpublic schools complete this requirement and there is no required reporting from the parent/guardian.

For students who are on the **Individualized Instructional Program (IIP) pathway**, including students who attend microschoools, the student must submit certain academic information to their local county superintendent. There are two options to satisfy the academic reporting requirements in the Hope Scholarship Act: (1) nationally normed standardized achievement tests or (2) certified teacher review of the student's academic work. Please submit the required documentation by email to your county using the email address found **HERE**. Email submission helps ensure that the documentation makes it to the correct person in the county and provides proof of submission for the guardian.

More information about the year-end academic reporting requirements can be found in the **Hope Scholarship FAQs** on our website. The FAQs include topics such as the specific subjects required for nationally normed testing, the sample portfolio review form, etc.

If you do not submit the required documentation for your renewal student, State law requires that the Hope Scholarship account be terminated and all money remaining in the account returned to the State of West Virginia. Please be sure to submit your required academic documentation by the June 8 deadline!

Also, as a reminder, the status of your student's Continued Participation Confirmation for 2026-27 will not be updated from Conditionally Eligible to Approved until **mid-July** after Hope Scholarship Board staff have confirmed submission of the

required academic/attendance reporting information with the West Virginia Department of Education.

Legislative Update: Quarterly Payments



House Bill 5686 passed the West Virginia Legislature during the recent 2026 legislative session and will go into effect for the 2026-2027 school year.

The legislation changes the timing of funding for Hope Scholarship student accounts. Historically, Hope Scholarship accounts have been funded twice per year, with half of the funds placed into student accounts by August 15 and the other half by January 15 annually. Moving forward, the program will have a quarterly funding model, with one fourth of the scholarship funding being placed into student accounts by August 15, October 15, January 15 and April 15 annually.

Save the Date! Lunch and Learn Webinar

The Hope Scholarship Program will hold a webinar on **Thursday, April 16 at noon** for interested families to learn more about the program. The webinar will cover the basic rules and requirements for participating students.

[Click HERE to join the Lunch and Learn](#)

State Treasurer Celebrates Hope Scholarship Universal Eligibility



In March, State Treasurer Larry Pack announced that all West Virginia children in grades K-12 are eligible to apply for the Hope Scholarship Program for the 2026-2027 academic year. He was joined by West Virginia Governor Patrick Morrisey, State Senator Patricia Rucker, Hope Scholarship families, and school choice advocates at the celebration.

Universal eligibility means that existing private school and traditional homeschool students who were not previously eligible for the program are now eligible to apply to participate in the State's Hope Scholarship program starting with the 2026-2027 school year. Hope Scholarship provides funding to students exercising school choice in lieu of attending full-time public school. To read more about the announcement, **CLICK HERE**.

In Case You Missed It

A webinar was held March 20 to provide information to Hope Scholarship families regarding the **Level Up WV** program, which allows high school juniors and seniors to take free dual credit courses in approved pathways with participating colleges and universities. If you are interested in learning about this program and the requirements to participate for the 2026-2027 school year, you can watch the webinar recording below and access the handout from the session **HERE**. A list of the primary contacts for each participating college and university can be found on page 13 of the handout, with the contact information for the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission on page 15.

LevelUp: WV's Dual Enrollment Program
Fall 2025 Data

Program Parameters:

- High school juniors & seniors earn college credit tuition-free
- State-funded through HEPC; **no cost students or families** for tuition
- Courses taught by college faculty or approved high school instructors
- **MOUs govern partnerships** between institutions and school districts / home school / private school / charter school
- **Academic pathways** align with Workforce WV

20 Participating Institutions	16K Student Enrollment Statewide
54 Courses	48K College Credits Earned by Fall 2025

West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission | West Virginia Community & Technical College System

WVEIS ID Request Form

All new applications for the 2026-27 school year must have a valid WVEIS number as part of the application review process. If you do not recall your students WVEIS

number, or your student will need a WVEIS number created, please complete the **WVEIS ID Request Form**. The WVEIS ID Request Form can be emailed to the county board of education in which you reside. A list of the county board email address can be found **HERE**.

If you receive an error when verifying your student's WVEIS ID number, the issue is most likely due to a mismatch with your student's date of birth. Once you have verified that you have the correct date of birth listed on the application in the Hope online portal, please contact your local county board of education to confirm that they have the correct date of birth in the WVEIS system.

Application Tips

When submitting a new application for your student for the 2026-27 school year, please remember these key items to ensure your application can be processed as quickly as possible and to avoid more documentation being requested for the review process.

- If you use your driver's license with the Plaid proof of residency verification process, no additional residency documentation is needed unless Plaid is unable to verify the address on your student's application.
- If you do not wish to utilize Plaid and want to use your driver's license as manual proof of residency, a second form of West Virginia residency documentation must also be submitted with the copy of your license, such as a utility bill or vehicle registration.
- A legal copy of the student's state or county birth certificate must be submitted with all new applications. Hospital issued certificates or those labeled with "not a legal copy" are not accepted.
- If uploading public assistance documentation from the West Virginia Department of Human Services as your form of West Virginia residency, the uploaded documentation must demonstrate that the public assistance is current and include the address listed on the student's application. Medical insurance cards are not an accepted form of residency documentation.

Account Holders for the Hope Scholarship Program

The Hope Scholarship account holder must be the student's biological parent, legal guardian, custodian, or another person with legal authority to act on behalf of the student. If a stepparent wishes to be the account holder of the student, supporting legal guardianship documentation must be submitted with application documents for review. If no legal documentation can be provided, the biological parent must be the account holder.

Any time an account holder is not listed on the student's state-issued birth certificate, legal guardianship documentation must be submitted for review with the application. For more information regarding common guardianship issues, please review our **FAQs**.

Declination Reminder

Any currently participating 2025-26 student OR new applicant for 2026-27 who no longer wishes to participate or is no longer eligible to participate in the Hope Scholarship program must notify Hope Board staff at hopescholarshipwv@wvsto.gov or 304-340-5058. This includes students who return to public school, students who return to another exemption from public school attendance such as traditional homeschool, students who graduate from high school, and students who move out of state.



Savings Opportunity for Students with Disabilities



If you have a student with a disability, they may qualify to participate in the WVABLE Savings Program administered by the West Virginia State Treasurer's Office. Under federal law, WVABLE participants are able to save and invest above the \$2,000 imposed asset limit for programs such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicaid without losing eligibility for those programs. This can help families plan for their children's futures by contributing up to \$20,000 per calendar year in a WVABLE account that can be invested in different options selected by

the participant. Contributions to a WVABLE account also qualify for certain federal and state tax benefits so long as the funds are spent on qualified expenses under the program rules.

If you are interested in learning more about the WVABLE program and whether it would be good option for your student, WVABLE offers monthly recurring webinars that provide a full program overview. Click [HERE](#) to register for an upcoming webinar. You may also learn more about the program by visiting wvable.com or emailing your questions to roxanne.clay@wvsto.gov.

There are Hope Scholarship students who also participate in the WVABLE program. Click below to meet Jackson and his mother, Amy Wix, from Beckley. Jackson is both a Hope Scholarship recipient and a WVABLE participant.



TheoPay Tips

When contacting the Hope Engagement Center regarding a TheoPay order issue or when completing a Qualified Expense Request Form, please be sure to use the TheoPay Expense ID in the far-left column from your main TheoPay Orders page in the online platform when identifying the transaction. This will help the Hope Scholarship team locate the specific TheoPay transaction quickly and easily. Providing the order confirmation number from the transaction details screen is not necessary and Hope Scholarship staff cannot use the order confirmation number from the vendor cannot to easily search for the transaction in question in the online platform.

Steubenville City Schools

Hope Scholarship participants attending Steubenville City Schools are considered Individualized Instructional Plan (IIP) students. Please ensure you are selecting the IIP pathway on your student's Hope Notice of Intent and in the Hope Scholarship Portal.

New TheoPay Vendors

The following vendors have been recently whitelisted for TheoPay:

- From Jennifer
- More Than Sunday School
- Play 'n Talk Phonics, Spelling & Typing
- Royal Fireworks Press
- Nuggets of Wisdom
- Cajun Kids Adventures
- Them 3 and Me
- Schoolio
- Dash Into Learning

- 1st Day School Supplies

Important Upcoming Dates

April 16, 2026: Hope Scholarship Lunch and Learn Webinar (12 p.m.)

April 25, 2026: Rescheduled West Virginia Homeschool Connection at the Charleston Coliseum and Convention Center (visit the Hope Scholarship Team at the event!)

June 8, 2026: Annual academic/attendance progress reporting for the 2025-2026 school year due to the county board of education

June 15, 2026: Deadline to submit CPCs and deadline for new applicants to receive 100% funding for the 2026-2027 school year

June 16, 2026: First day of the 75% funding window for the 2026-2027 school year

Mid-July: Applications in Conditionally Eligible and Eligible status will begin to be updated to Approved status for the 2026-2027 school year after verification of academic progress and NOIs being on file in WVEIS



Fraud and Abuse Reporting

If you are aware of any person who has abused the use of their Hope Scholarship funds or has committed fraud or attempted to commit fraud involving Hope Scholarship funds, you can file a report on the Hope Scholarship website. Click on the link below to report fraud or abuse.

[Report Fraud or Abuse](#)



West Virginia State Treasurer's Office | 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E | Charleston, WV 25305 US

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