

Application Status Q&A

Question: When will my child's application status be updated from Conditionally Eligible or Eligible to Approved? I have already turned in my child's academic progress and/or Notice of Intent but their status hasn't changed.

Answer: The application status for Hope Scholarship students for the 2025-2026 school year will be updated from Conditionally Eligible or Eligible to Approved in **mid-July**.

Students in Conditionally Eligible status are students who have continued participation in the program. Board staff must verify that the student's required annual academic reporting information for the 2024-2025 school year is on file with the county board of education. By law, that data is not due to the Hope Scholarship Board until July 1 annually and then it will take time to analyze and update the status to Approved for over 10,000 students.

Students in Eligible status are new applicants for the 2025-2026 school year. In early July, Hope Board staff will also analyze whether the statutorily required Notice of Intent (NOI) form has been filed with the county board of education and update the status of thousands of new applicants for the upcoming school year in batches.

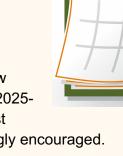
More information about Conditionally Eligible and Eligible statuses can be found in the Hope Scholarship FAQs found <u>HERE.</u>

Important Upcoming Dates

- June 8, 2025: Year-end academic reporting due to the county board of education.
- June 15, 2025: Last day to submit Continued Participation Confirmations for 2025-2026. No late confirmations will be accepted after the

deadline.

- June 15, 2025: 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.
- July 31, 2025: Recommended last day for new Hope participants to submit their NOI for the 2025-2026 school year to ensure no issues with first semester funding. Earlier submission is strongly encouraged.
- August 15, 2025: First semester funding date for the 2025-2026 school year.



DEADLINE: Year-End Academic Reporting Due June 8

As previously noted in the April newsletter, Hope Scholarship students currently participating for the 2024-25 school year must satisfy the statutorily required academic/attendance reporting requirements by **June 8**, **2025**.

Even if you miss the deadline, please submit the required information as soon possible. The information should be submitted by email to the special email addresses created for this purpose to help ensure that it makes it to the correct person in the county and to have proof of submission. The email list can be found HERE.

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 microschools, 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.

More information about the year-end academic reporting requirements can be found in the **Hope Scholarship FAQs** on our website. Examples include information about the specific subjects 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.

2025-2026 CPC Reminder

There is a high volume of Continued Participation Confirmations (CPCs) which have either been started and never submitted or which were submitted but still require an update from the parents. Many of these applications haven't been touched in several months.



Please check your student's 2025-2026 application status in the online platform to

ensure that your CPC has been submitted before the June 15 deadline. A status of Finish Application means that your application has never been submitted, and a status of Update Application means that your application requires additional information or correction of some sort. As a reminder, if you fail to initially submit your CPC by the June 15 deadline, your student's Hope Scholarship account will be closed, and your student will have to requalify for the program as a new applicant.

Carryover Funds

If a Hope Scholarship student has unspent funds in their account at the end of the 2024-2025 school year, those funds will remain in the student's account and carry over to the 2025-2026 school year as long as the student has submitted their Continued Participation Confirmation. Account holders will have access to those carryover funds throughout the summer and can use the funds to make qualified purchases through TheoPay or the closed marketplace. If a student stops participating in the program or loses eligibility to participate, the student's account will be closed and all funds in their account, including carryover funds, will be returned to the State.

School Selection for 2025-2026

Hope students will have access to make a school selection for the 2025-2026 school year beginning in **mid-July** when the student's application status is updated to Approved. Please do not attempt to select a school before then. Several people intending to pick a school for 2025-2026 have selected a school for 2024-2025 in error.

New TheoPay Vendors

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

- eat2explore
- Schoolhouse Discoveries
- A Gentle Feast

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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