



New Parent Webinar



New Hope Scholarship families are encouraged to join us for a webinar at **6 p.m. on Tuesday, August 5, 2025.**

This virtual session will provide new Hope Scholarship parents with an opportunity to learn more about the online portal, account holder responsibilities, and important next steps for the 2025-2026 school year.

Please use the following link to join the webinar: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87889036171>.

If you are unable to attend the live event, the webinar will be recorded and provided to families.

West Virginia Sales Tax Holiday

The West Virginia Sales Tax Holiday will begin today, Friday, August 1 and run through Monday, August 4. More information about the items which qualify for the holiday can be found **HERE**.

Hope Scholarship students with carryover balances who wish to take advantage of the tax-free holiday to save on sales tax can make purchases on qualifying expenses through TheoPay. The TheoPay fulfillment team will work diligently to fulfill as many orders as possible during this time frame but cannot guarantee that all orders will be placed before the end of the holiday. It is highly encouraged that orders be placed as early as possible during the holiday window, as it is unlikely that orders placed on August 4, 2025 will be fulfilled in time to be tax-free.



School or IIP Selection

All Hope Scholarship students in Approved status for 2025-2026 are reminded to make a selection in the Hope Scholarship online portal to indicate that they will be an Individualized Instructional Plan (IIP) student or to select the specific school or microschoo that the student will be attending for the upcoming school year. It is very important that this step be completed in advance of accounts being funded for the first semester on August 15, 2025. A quick video demonstration of how to make the selection in the online portal can be found [HERE](#).

Avoid Funding Delays: Submit Your Student's Notice of Intent



All new Hope Scholarship participants for the 2025-2026 school year must submit their statutorily required Notice of Intent (NOI) to the county board of education in which they reside.

An application status of “Eligible” instead of “Approved” indicates that your student’s NOI has not been recorded by the county board of education. The Hope Scholarship legislative rules indicate that a student’s Hope Scholarship funding may be delayed if the student’s NOI is not on file. If your student’s application status is not in “Approved” status by Friday, August 8, 2025, your student’s first semester funding will be delayed and your student’s account will not be funded on August 15, 2025. Scholarship funding is processed monthly outside of the primary funding dates for the program, and students who become compliant with the NOI requirement after August 8, 2025 will be funded on the next available monthly funding file. Please avoid funding delays by submitting your student’s NOI now.

The Hope Scholarship NOI form can be found [HERE](#). Please email the completed NOI form to the county board of education using the special email address created for such communication. The email addresses for each county board of education can be found [HERE](#). We do not recommend mailing or hand-delivering your NOI to the county board of education.

New Application Appeals Process

Effective August 1, the submission of application eligibility appeals will now take place directly in the Hope Scholarship online platform instead of through the submission of a manual appeal form by email.

For applicants wishing to appeal a determination on their Hope Scholarship application, please follow the steps outlined in the Eligibility Appeal Instructions found [HERE](#) within forty-five days of the application being found ineligible.

The appeal button will automatically disappear in the online portal after the forty-five day appeal window has closed. If the appeal button is missing from your application and you believe that you should still have access to appeal your eligibility determination, please contact Hope Scholarship Board staff by email at hopescholarshipwv@wvsto.gov or 304-340-5058 for assistance.

Notification Requirement for Students Returning to Public School



If your student has been approved to participate in the Hope Scholarship Program for the 2025-2026 school year but decides to attend public school full-time, you must notify Hope Scholarship Board staff of the decision by emailing hopescholarshipwv@wvsto.gov.

A student is not eligible to receive the Hope Scholarship while they are attending public school full-time. If your student returns to public school at any time during the school year, this notification requirement is still in place. If you spend Hope Scholarship funds after your student has returned to public school, those funds must be repaid to the State.

Reimbursement Policy Reminders

The Hope Scholarship Board's limited reimbursement policy can be found [HERE](#). Please review the policy prior to making any out-of-pocket purchases for which you plan to seek reimbursement with your student's Hope Scholarship funds.



As a reminder, Hope Scholarship Board Staff will **deny** a reimbursement request if the account holder purchases the item **prior** to Hope Scholarship funds being available in the student's Hope Scholarship online account, even if the item would have otherwise been considered for approval.

Tips for Accessing Hope Scholarship Account



Please note that log-in credentials with the Hope Scholarship online portal are case sensitive. When entering the email address associated with your Hope Scholarship account on the log-in screen, please ensure that you do not capitalize any characters in your email address. If you continue to experience log in issues even after checking the capitalization of your log-in email address, please contact the Hope Engagement Center at 681-999-4673 or help@hopescholarshipwv.com.

New TheoPay Vendors

The following additional TheoPay Vendors have been whitelisted since the last newsletter and are now available to shop for qualified expenses using the TheoPay extension:

Goally	The CEO Kid
Learning Ally, Inc.	Fantastic Games
So Much Sew	Brain Sprints
Actual Reading	By God's Standard LLC
The Gentle, Classical Press	Kolbe Academy Bookstore
Media Angels	ArtCart
Ramsey Store	Historical Conquest
Tassel Dash	Global Sprouts
BouncyBand	Mahn Learning
Innovative Learning Press	Futurepreneur
Print-N-Go Printables	Hatching Curiosity
Pinocchio's Books and Toys	

School Uniform Opportunity

Pro3 Services, a school uniform provider on TheoPay that is the uniform provider for multiple participating Hope schools, is offering a free shipping opportunity for Hope Scholarship orders made through the platform. See [HERE](#) for additional information.

Upcoming Important Dates

- Aug. 5: New Parent Webinar
- Aug. 15: First semester funding released for applications in Approved status
- Sept. 15: Last day for eligible students to apply for 75% scholarship funding



- Sept. 16: First day for eligible students to apply for 50% scholarship funding

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](#)



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