



**SAINT BRIGID
OF KILDARE SCHOOL**

Seeking Grace and Wisdom

EdChoice Frequently Asked Questions

1. Has my application been received by St. Brigid?

If your application has been submitted via the EdChoice email (edchoice@stbrigid-school.org), it will be processed in a timely manner. If you are unsure as to whether or not your application has been submitted, please email the address listed above. As of September 13th St. Brigid School will start a process for notifying you that the application has been received by our school.

2. Do I apply for EdChoice Traditional or Expansion Scholarship?

As an EdChoice provider, St. Brigid can accept both Traditional and Expansion scholarships. However, eligibility for the Traditional scholarship is dependent on a student being assigned to a low-performing, EdChoice designated public school. Any family that is eligible for both scholarships will need to determine which scholarship best fits the needs of their family. To learn about the EdChoice Traditional Scholarship eligibility, [please click here](#).

3. Will I receive my Oak Society Grant if I apply for EdChoice? Can I get both?

Yes, if you have already been awarded an Oak Society Grant for the 2023-24 school year, you will keep that \$500 grant per K-8 child. Your EdChoice scholarship amount will be added to the \$500 Oak Society Grant. If the combined total is greater than your tuition amount, the Oak Society Grant will be reduced.

4. How soon until I hear if my application has been accepted by ODE?

Unfortunately, ODE has given us no timeline for processing. When we are provided with updates, we will be sure to communicate.

5. Do I have to fill out the income verification piece regardless of my income?

Yes, everyone must fill out the income verification piece to complete their EdChoice application. You do not need to be low-income qualified to receive EdChoice funds. The information requested is not nearly as extensive as the Emmaus Road Scholarship and is at your fingertips if your 2023 tax return has been submitted.

6. Will the check come directly to me or to the school? Do I have to come to the school to sign the check each month?

Your Ed Choice award is not paid in one lump sum, but instead is spread over the school year in monthly payments. The checks are sent from the state directly to St Brigid. You have the option to

come in the school office each month and endorse the check to St. Brigid or you could complete the Check Deposit Consent Form as part of your application. We highly recommend you complete the Check Deposit Consent Form to avoid any delay in applying your Ed Choice check to your tuition balance.

7. If I prepaid tuition, will I be reimbursed for the amount of my Ed Choice award?

If you already paid your tuition in full, your tuition will be reimbursed by the amount of the Ed choice award. If your Ed Choice award is less than your remaining balance, your Ed Choice award will be credited to your FACTS account and future payments will be reduced. You will receive all EdChoice scholarship dollars awarded to you (via a tuition credit/reimbursement) regardless of if you've already made payments.

8. Who at St. Brigid will see/have access to my income verification information?

No one at St. Brigid will see your income verification information. This information is submitted directly to the state.

9. What happens to my previously awarded assistance (scholarships, Emmaus Road Grants, Diocesan Assistance, teacher discounts) if I get an Ed Choice award?

If your Ed Choice award plus any other previously awarded assistance is less than total tuition, you will keep the full value of both the Ed Choice award plus previously awarded assistance. If the combined value is higher, you will keep the value of your Ed Choice award and a portion of the assistance, so that your tuition balance may be \$0. The unused assistance may be released and re-allocated to other St. Brigid of Kildare School students.

10. What happens to my earned credits (Scrip, Share the Good News, \$35 assistance application credit) if I get an Ed Choice award?

If your Ed Choice award plus any earned credits is less than total tuition, you will keep the earned credits and your Ed Choice award will be credited to your FACTS account and future payments will be reduced. If the combined total is higher, you will be reimbursed the amount of the earned credit.

11. Do our families have to follow the 3rd grade reading guarantee and state testing guidelines that are a part of the Ed Choice program?

In grades K-8, Ed Choice recipients must take a diagnostic assessment. In the Diocese of Columbus, we administer the STAR assessment. Students in grades 5 and 8 must also take the Ohio State Science Test in the spring.

As part of the Ed Choice program, our school must follow the provisions outlined in the 3rd grade reading guarantee. Students in grades K-3 must take a diagnostic assessment, which is the STAR assessment at St. Brigid. We administer this three times a year at our school. Based on the fall score, students in grades K-3 will be determined to be on track or off track. If a student is off track, a Reading Improvement and Monitoring Plan will be created and implemented by the school staff. Parents will be notified of this plan.

[Please read this Diocesan letter for further information.](#)

3rd grade students will also participate in the Renaissance 3rd Grade Proficiency Assessment in October. If a student does not meet the state reading benchmark on this assessment, retention may be considered. There is another opportunity to pass this assessment in the spring.

12. Do our families have to follow the Ed Choice attendance policy?

Yes, in order to be considered as a future recipient of this scholarship, families must follow [the attendance policy outlined here.](#)