Ohio families with students in Grades K-12:

As of July 2023, all Ohio families with students in Grades K-12 are eligible for EdChoice Expansion scholarships. These scholarships are based on income and vary in amount depending upon what percentage of the Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG) the family's household income meets. See details below:

0 - 450%

Scholarship Award: Grades K-8 \$6,166 Scholarship Award: Grades 9-12 \$8,408

451 - 500%

Scholarship Award: Grades K-8 \$5,200 Scholarship Award: Grades 9-12 \$7,050

501 - 550%

Scholarship Award: Grades K-8 \$3,650 Scholarship Award: Grades 9-12 \$5,000

551 - 600%

Scholarship Award: Grades K-8 \$2,600 Scholarship Award: Grades 9-12 \$3,550

601 - 650%

Scholarship Award: Grades K-8 \$1,850 Scholarship Award: Grades 9-12 \$2,500

651 - 700%

Scholarship Award: Grades K-8 \$1,300 Scholarship Award: Grades 9-12 \$1,750

701 - 750%

Scholarship Award: Grades K-8 \$900 Scholarship Award: Grades 9-12 \$1,250

751% or higher

Scholarship Award: Grades K-8 \$650 Scholarship Award: Grades 9-12 \$950

For all families whose income falls **below 200%** of the FPG, the state requires CWS to write off the remaining tuition balance, *as long as the family provides annual income verification to the state*. CWS will provide additional tuition write-offs to families with students in Grades 1-12 whose incomes fall between 201-450% on a sliding scale as detailed below. Kindergarten families between 201-450% will not receive additional write-offs, as the scholarship already covers more than half of full tuition.

201-250% - 75% write-off of tuition balance after the EdChoice scholarship is applied 251-300% - 50% write-off of tuition balance after the EdChoice scholarship is applied 301-350% - 25% write-off of tuition balance after the EdChoice scholarship is applied 351-400% - 15% write-off of tuition balance after the EdChoice scholarship is applied 401-450% - 5% write-off of tuition balance after the EdChoice scholarship is applied

Important points to note:

- 1. Ohio K-12 families must apply for and be awarded an EdChoice scholarship before CWS will consider any write-offs or additional tuition assistance.
- 2. Ohio K-12 families who expect to be below 200% of the FPG and receive the full write-off must provide *annual* income verification to the Ohio Department of Education (ODE); if not, they will be required to pay the balance between the EdChoice scholarship and full tuition.
- Ohio K-12 families who expect to fall between 201-450% of the FPG are not required to
 provide income verification annually after the initial application year, unless they choose
 to do so. If they do not, the scholarship and write-off amounts will remain the same
 annually.
- 4. Ohio K-12 EdChoice families should *not* apply for assistance at FACTS Grant & Aid moving forward. All income verification should take place in the ODE portal and CWS will use those numbers to determine assistance. This includes families that receive a location-based scholarship. To receive an income-based write-off (as detailed above), income verification must take place at ODE *not* at FACTS.

Preschool families and families outside of Ohio:

Families that have a preschool student (not yet age-eligible for EdChoice) and/or live outside of Ohio may request tuition assistance by submitting an online application at <u>FACTS Grant & Aid</u>. The application window for the next school year opens December 1st of each current year and applications for re-enrolling families are due no later than January 15th. New families should apply immediately upon receiving notification of acceptance to CWS.

We intentionally use a third party in order to ensure that the application process is fair, unbiased, and free of any conflicts of interest that could arise in our small community. FACTS Grant & Aid uses a mathematical formula based upon a family's income, expenses, and total tuition cost to determine eligibility for aid.

It is CWS policy to consider both natural parents' financial resources and/or total household income in evaluating need. In the case of separated, divorced, or never married parents, both parents (with new spouses, if applicable) must file a separate Grant and Aid Assessment Application with FACTS. Each parent must file all supporting documents as outlined above. This requirement is waived only under extraordinary circumstances. To request a waiver, please contact the CWS Business Manager.

Appeal Process:

CWS recognizes that sometimes there are circumstances that affect a family's finances that are beyond the scope of annual income alone. Emergencies and hardships do occasionally arise and we want to help families in these instances as needed. Our appeal process gives families

an opportunity to explain these obstacles and help our Tuition Assistance Task Force* understand their need for additional aid. If you believe that your family's financial situation is so extreme that the write-offs and assistance offered through the previously detailed guidelines are not enough, please reach out to our Business Manager. An in-person meeting will be arranged with the Tuition Assistance Task Force during which your extraordinary need can be discussed, and the school will work together with your family to find a mutually agreeable solution. While appeal funds are quite limited, we do strive to help families in crisis as we are able. Please understand that families receiving EdChoice scholarships are lower on the appeal priority list than our families who don't receive any scholarships.

*The Tuition Assistance Task Force consists of the following faculty members:
Business Manager
Enrollment Director
Finance Director
One teaching faculty member who also serves on the Leadership Council