



Hello!

Thank you for your interest in Nativity of Our Lord School. I want to welcome you to a wonderful community dedicated to advancing your child's personal growth and development spiritually, academically, emotionally, physically, and socially.

Nativity has been my academic home since moving to Western New York eighteen years ago. My children are alums of Nativity. I taught here as an ELA, Religion, Second Grade Teacher, and then found my niche as the third-grade teacher for a total of thirteen teaching years before taking on the role of Principal. I am personally invested in this school and the families who entrust their children to our daily care.

The Faculty and Staff at Nativity are dedicated professionals who bring their expertise, knowledge, and enthusiasm to our students daily. Our curriculum follows New York State Standards and the tenets of our Catholic beliefs.

If your child enjoys singing, playing an instrument, or competitive athletics, our Music and Sports programs will interest them. Our STREAM Initiative (Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, and Math) challenges our learners to create and innovate. We practice our faith by what we do in acts of service and by following our Honor Code. Daily, we pray, and biweekly we attend Mass as a class or as a whole school. Throughout the year, we donate time and resources to causes in our community.

Consider having your child visit for a Shadow Day. If you have any questions, please email me at cscott@nativityschool.net. I'd happily speak with you or arrange a meeting in person. At Nativity, we are different because we make a difference in young lives by teaching according to our Catholic Christian Values. I thank you for considering Nativity for your child's education. You will be glad that you did.

With Christ as Our Role Model,

Mrs. Coleen Scott

Principal

Nativity of Our Lord School





NATIVITY OF OUR LORD SCHOOL

January 26, 2024

Dear Parents,

As we begin to plan for the next academic year of 2024-2025 here at Nativity of Our Lord School, I want to take the opportunity to **thank you** for your commitment to Catholic Education in sending your children to our school. Hopefully, you find the quality education and faith formation your children receive well worth the investment.

Since becoming Principal of our School, Mrs. Coleen Scott, along with her very dedicated faculty, have brought many positive improvements to our School including: enhancements in curriculum, security improvements, technology upgrades (ViewSonic Boards and new Chromebooks), hiring Mrs. Jill Metz as Director of Advancement and Marketing, developing a School Board, and upgrading the School PA system. Certainly, a heartfelt word of gratitude to all – Mrs. Scott, teachers and staff, school parents, parishioners, alumni and friends – who support our school with their time, talent, and financial resources!

In light of rising costs, and the need to keep the subsidy from the Parish to the School at a fiscally responsible level, it is necessary to increase tuition for the upcoming year. It is important to note that tuition receipts cover only a portion of the total expenditures; the remainder is subsidized by the parish and through fundraising efforts of the Home School Association. Taking the above into consideration, the following tuition rates for the 2024-2025 school year have been established:

Pre-School (Per child) - Half Day \$4,450.00 Full Day \$6,300.00

Grades K-8 (One child)	\$4,700.00	(Three children) \$10,575.00
(Two children)	\$7,900.00	(Four or more children) \$11,280.00

Please note with the loss of the CTGP funding from the Diocese of Buffalo, a **\$500.00 supplemental fee** per family will be charged for all those who are not parishioners of the Parishes in our Family (Nativity of Our Lord, SS. Peter & Paul in Hamburg, St. Bernadette, St. John the Baptist, Boston).

This year again we are pleased to offer a tuition incentive for our returning families who refer Nativity to another family. Every referring family **receives a \$250 reduction off their total tuition bill**. This incentive can be taken in December, January or February of the 2024-25 school year. The enrolling family must declare the family who referred them on the registration form and must still be enrolled for the incentive to be taken. There is also **tuition assistance available** for those seeking that help; please contact the Parish Business Office for details.

God's blessings to you and your family,

Rev. James D. Ciupek
Pastor

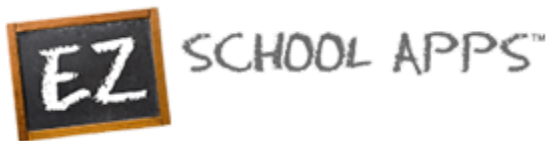
4414 South Buffalo St., Orchard Park, NY 14127
Tel: (716) 662-7572 Fax: (716) 662-3483
www.nativityschool.net

Facts Tuition Management – Tuition must be paid through FACTS



Here are the steps to create your FACTS account:

- 1) Go to the school website: www.nativityschool.net
- 2) Select Admission & Tuition.
- 3) Scroll to FACTS Tuition Management.
- 4) Click the red highlighted word: **LINK**
- 5) Create your account.
- 6) Choose a payment plan and enter a form of payment, when asked for a student ID number use the first few letters of the students last and first name to proceed. Your child/children will be assigned an official ID number once your FACTS account is finalized.



EZ SCHOOL APPS is used for lunch payment. Use the following steps to create an account and to pay online.

- 1) Go to the school website: www.nativityschool.net
- 2) Click on "Virtual Backpack"

Scroll to this link: [EZ School Lunch Program-View Your Lunch Balance \(not a payment system\)](#)

Scroll to this link to pay online: [Vanco \(please click here to pay your child's lunch balance \(takes 1-3 days to post\)\)](#)

*Cash or check can be paid in the lunchroom.

If you have any questions, contact Catie Czora in the business office at 662-9339 ext.131.

Health and Dental Examination Requirements

Dear Parents/Guardians,

New York State law requires a health examination for all students entering the school district for the first time and when entering Pre-K or K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th and 11th grades. The examination must be completed by a New York State licensed physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner.

A dental certificate which states your child has been seen by a dentist or dental hygienist is also asked for at the same time. The school will provide you with a list of dentists and registered dental hygienists who offer dental services on a free or reduced cost basis if you ask for it.

- A copy of the health examination must be provided to the school within 30 days from when your child first starts at the school, and when your child starts Pre-K or K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th and 11th grades. If a copy is not given to the school within 30 days, the school will contact you.
- If your child has an appointment for an exam during this school year that is after the 30 days of school, please notify the Health Office with the date.
- For your convenience, a physical and dental certificate for your health care providers are enclosed.
- Immunizations must be up to date within 2 weeks of the start of school as per NYS Law to remain in school.
- Communication between private and school health staff is important for safe and effective care at school. Your healthcare provider may not share health information with school health staff without your signed permission. Please talk to your provider about signing their consent form for the school at the time of your child's appointment for the examination.

We suggest you make copies of the completed forms for your own records before sending them to the school health office. Forms may also be faxed to the school 716-662-3483.

Sincerely,

Mary Schnorr, RN

2023-24 School Year

New York State Immunization Requirements

for School Entrance/Attendance¹

NOTES:

All children must be age-appropriately immunized to attend school in NYS. The number of doses depends on the schedule recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Intervals between doses of vaccine must be in accordance with the “[ACIP-Recommended Child and Adolescent Immunization Schedule](#).” Doses received before the minimum age or intervals are not valid and do not count toward the number of doses listed below. See footnotes for specific information for each vaccine. Children who are enrolling in grade-less classes must meet the immunization requirements of the grades for which they are age equivalent.

Dose requirements **MUST** be read with the footnotes of this schedule

Vaccines	Pre-Kindergarten (Day Care, Head Start, Nursery or Pre-K)	Kindergarten and Grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5	Grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11	Grade 12
Diphtheria and Tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine (DTaP/DTP/Tdap/Td) ²	4 doses	5 doses or 4 doses if the 4th dose was received at 4 years or older or 3 doses if 7 years or older and the series was started at 1 year or older	3 doses	
Tetanus and Diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine adolescent booster (Tdap) ³	Not applicable		1 dose	
Polio vaccine (IPV/OPV) ⁴	3 doses	4 doses or 3 doses if the 3rd dose was received at 4 years or older		
Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine (MMR) ⁵	1 dose	2 doses		
Hepatitis B vaccine ⁶	3 doses	3 doses or 2 doses of adult hepatitis B vaccine (Recombivax) for children who received the doses at least 4 months apart between the ages of 11 through 15 years		
Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine ⁷	1 dose	2 doses		
Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY) ⁸	Not applicable		Grades 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11: 1 dose	2 doses or 1 dose if the dose was received at 16 years or older
Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (Hib) ⁹	1 to 4 doses	Not applicable		
Pneumococcal Conjugate vaccine (PCV) ¹⁰	1 to 4 doses	Not applicable		

1. Demonstrated serologic evidence of measles, mumps or rubella antibodies or laboratory confirmation of these diseases is acceptable proof of immunity to these diseases. Serologic tests for polio are acceptable proof of immunity only if the test was performed before September 1, 2019, and all three serotypes were positive. A positive blood test for hepatitis B surface antibody is acceptable proof of immunity to hepatitis B. Demonstrated serologic evidence of varicella antibodies, laboratory confirmation of varicella disease or diagnosis by a physician, physician assistant or nurse practitioner that a child has had varicella disease is acceptable proof of immunity to varicella.

2. Diphtheria and tetanus toxoids and acellular pertussis (DTaP) vaccine. (Minimum age: 6 weeks)

a. Children starting the series on time should receive a 5-dose series of DTaP vaccine at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months and at 15 through 18 months and at 4 years or older. The fourth dose may be received as early as age 12 months, provided at least 6 months have elapsed since the third dose. However, the fourth dose of DTaP need not be repeated if it was administered at least 4 months after the third dose of DTaP. The final dose in the series must be received on or after the fourth birthday and at least 6 months after the previous dose.

b. If the fourth dose of DTaP was administered at 4 years or older, and at least 6 months after dose 3, the fifth (booster) dose of DTaP vaccine is not required.

c. Children 7 years and older who are not fully immunized with the childhood DTaP vaccine series should receive Tdap vaccine as the first dose in the catch-up series; if additional doses are needed, use Td or Tdap vaccine. If the first dose was received before their first birthday, then 4 doses are required, as long as the final dose was received at 4 years or older. If the first dose was received on or after the first birthday, then 3 doses are required, as long as the final dose was received at 4 years or older.

3. Tetanus and diphtheria toxoids and acellular pertussis (Tdap) adolescent booster vaccine. (Minimum age for grades 6 through 9: 10 years; minimum age for grades 10, 11, and 12: 7 years)

a. Students 11 years or older entering grades 6 through 12 are required to have one dose of Tdap.

b. In addition to the grade 6 through 12 requirement, Tdap may also be given as part of the catch-up series for students 7 years of age and older who are not fully immunized with the childhood DTaP series, as described above. In school year 2023-2024, only doses of Tdap given at age 10 years or older will satisfy the Tdap requirement for students in grades 6 through 9; however, doses of Tdap given at age 7 years or older will satisfy the requirement for students in grades 10, 11, and 12.

c. Students who are 10 years old in grade 6 and who have not yet received a Tdap vaccine are in compliance until they turn 11 years old.

4. Inactivated polio vaccine (IPV) or oral polio vaccine (OPV). (Minimum age: 6 weeks)

a. Children starting the series on time should receive a series of IPV at 2 months, 4 months and at 6 through 18 months, and at 4 years or older. The final dose in the series must be received on or after the fourth birthday and at least 6 months after the previous dose.

b. For students who received their fourth dose before age 4 and prior to August 7, 2010, 4 doses separated by at least 4 weeks is sufficient.

c. If the third dose of polio vaccine was received at 4 years or older and at least 6 months after the previous dose, the fourth dose of polio vaccine is not required.

d. For children with a record of OPV, only trivalent OPV (tOPV) counts toward NYS school polio vaccine requirements. Doses of OPV given before April 1, 2016, should be counted unless specifically noted as monovalent, bivalent or as given during a poliovirus immunization campaign. Doses of OPV given on or after April 1, 2016, must not be counted.

5. Measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine. (Minimum age: 12 months)

a. The first dose of MMR vaccine must have been received on or after the first birthday. The second dose must have been received at least 28 days (4 weeks) after the first dose to be considered valid.

b. Measles: One dose is required for prekindergarten. Two doses are required for grades kindergarten through 12.

c. Mumps: One dose is required for prekindergarten. Two doses are required for grades kindergarten through 12.

d. Rubella: At least one dose is required for all grades (prekindergarten through 12).

6. Hepatitis B vaccine

a. Dose 1 may be given at birth or anytime thereafter. Dose 2 must be given at least 4 weeks (28 days) after dose 1. Dose 3 must be at least 8 weeks after dose 2 AND at least 16 weeks after dose 1 AND no earlier than age 24 weeks (when 4 doses are given, substitute “dose 4” for “dose 3” in these calculations).

b. Two doses of adult hepatitis B vaccine (Recombivax) received at least 4 months apart at age 11 through 15 years will meet the requirement.

7. Varicella (chickenpox) vaccine. (Minimum age: 12 months)

a. The first dose of varicella vaccine must have been received on or after the first birthday. The second dose must have been received at least 28 days (4 weeks) after the first dose to be considered valid.

b. For children younger than 13 years, the recommended minimum interval between doses is 3 months (if the second dose was administered at least 4 weeks after the first dose, it can be accepted as valid); for persons 13 years and older, the minimum interval between doses is 4 weeks.

8. Meningococcal conjugate ACWY vaccine (MenACWY). (Minimum age for grades 7 through 10: 10 years; minimum age for grades 11 and 12: 6 weeks).

a. One dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine (Menactra, Menveo or MenQuadfi) is required for students entering grades 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11.

b. For students in grade 12, if the first dose of meningococcal conjugate vaccine was received at 16 years or older, the second (booster) dose is not required.

c. The second dose must have been received at 16 years or older. The minimum interval between doses is 8 weeks.

9. Haemophilus influenzae type b (Hib) conjugate vaccine. (Minimum age: 6 weeks)

a. Children starting the series on time should receive Hib vaccine at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months and at 12 through 15 months. Children older than 15 months must get caught up according to the ACIP catch-up schedule. The final dose must be received on or after 12 months.

b. If 2 doses of vaccine were received before age 12 months, only 3 doses are required with dose 3 at 12 through 15 months and at least 8 weeks after dose 2.

c. If dose 1 was received at age 12 through 14 months, only 2 doses are required with dose 2 at least 8 weeks after dose 1.

d. If dose 1 was received at 15 months or older, only 1 dose is required.

e. Hib vaccine is not required for children 5 years or older.

f. [For further information, refer to the CDC Catch-Up Guidance for Healthy Children 4 Months through 4 Years of Age.](#)

10. Pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV). (Minimum age: 6 weeks)

a. Children starting the series on time should receive PCV vaccine at 2 months, 4 months, 6 months and at 12 through 15 months. Children older than 15 months must get caught up according to the ACIP catch-up schedule. The final dose must be received on or after 12 months.

b. Unvaccinated children ages 7 through 11 months are required to receive 2 doses, at least 4 weeks apart, followed by a third dose at 12 through 15 months.

c. Unvaccinated children ages 12 through 23 months are required to receive 2 doses of vaccine at least 8 weeks apart.

d. If one dose of vaccine was received at 24 months or older, no further doses are required.

e. PCV is not required for children 5 years or older.

f. [For further information, refer to the CDC Catch-Up Guidance for Healthy Children 4 Months through 4 Years of Age.](#)

For further information, contact:

**New York State Department of Health
Bureau of Immunization
Room 649, Corning Tower ESP
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 473-4437**

**New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
Program Support Unit, Bureau of Immunization,
42-09 28th Street, 5th floor
Long Island City, NY 11101
(347) 396-2433**

2370

New York State Department of Health/Bureau of Immunization
health.ny.gov/immunization

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2024-2025 SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Uniforms are required for grades Kindergarten – 8th Grade

- Any students wearing a polo shirt **must wear the polo shirt with the embroidered Nativity logo.** Polo shirts colors with the embroidered logo may be **White, Red or Black.**
- Dress shirts and blouses **must be White.**
- Any students wearing slacks or shorts **may wear Black or Khaki Color.**
- **All girls-** Jumpers, skirts, skorts - **uniform plaid only.**
- **All students-** During the months of - **September and October, May and June** - may wear black or khaki color dress shorts rather than pants with a polo shirt.
- **All students-** Socks, tights or leggings must be worn and must be solid colored- white, black or red. Leggings may be worn year-round.
- **All students-** Casual or dress shoes or sneakers are permitted to be worn.
- All shirts and blouses are to be tucked into the skirts, pants, or shorts. Failure to comply may result in the student being issued a detention.
- Uniform attire will be in effect from the first day of school in September until the last day of school in June.

P.E. Uniform-

The PE uniform is being updated to include:

Uniform Shorts, Sweatshirt and Sweatpants to be purchased at McKay's and possibly another vendor as the only Uniform for PE .

More information will be available as soon as possible.

Girls Grades K-5 -

~plaid jumper or plaid skort

~white long sleeve or short sleeve blouse (any appropriate collar) or polo shirt

~optional – any sweater or sweatshirt with the Nativity logo

Girls Grades 6-8 –

~plaid skirt

~white long or short sleeve dress blouse or polo shirt

~optional – red or black Nativity sweatshirt or jacket with Nativity logo

Girls Grades K-8- Winter Uniforms- November to April -

~Are permitted to wear black or khaki color pants rather than school jumper, skirt or skort

Boys Grades K-5–

~ black or khaki color pants with a belt

~white long sleeve or short sleeve dress shirt or polo shirt (tie is not required)

Boys Grades 6-8 – Winter Uniforms – November to April-

~black or khaki color pants with belt

~white long sleeve or short sleeve dress shirt

~school tie is required

Uniforms are available from: McKays Clothing, FlynnO'Hara and Land's End.

Information is available on our website @ nativityschool.net

Revised February 2024



Nativity of Our Lord School

All children are capable of learning. It is imperative children be offered a diverse approach to learning. Many children learn differently and at different rates. One way Nativity is able to accommodate them is through:

Mrs. Gloss' Learning Lab

Nativity's Learning Lab was developed in 2001 to better accommodate today's learner. The services which carried out through the lab are Literacy Coordinating, Response to Intervention/Academic Intervention Support, 504 plans and IEP testing accommodations. In addition, the lab is used for all make-up tests K-8, and as a quiet area for students who need to complete any independent work.

Response to Intervention RTI

Nativity of Our Lord School believes in providing the highest quality of education for every student. We recognize that students learn differently, and are committed to helping all students succeed. To meet this goal, we adopted a three-tiered approach to instruction. This process, known nationally as **Response to Intervention**, or RTI, gained attention when federal law established these practices as an approach to identify and provide early intervention to struggling students.

We currently provide RTI in Reading and Math for grades K-4. Our school-wide screening tool for Reading and Math, Renaissance Star, is administered to all students in K-4 three times during each school year to determine the students who are at or above benchmark and students who will need supplemental instruction to meet grade level expectations. Students needing intervention will be monitored weekly using Star progress monitoring assessment tool. Data from these tools and a variety of other sources will help us provide students with the best instruction. Information from assessments will guide instruction and keep the school and you aware of how your child is progressing.

Each tier provides additional support beyond the core curriculum. Students needing supplemental instruction/intervention will be monitored frequently to ensure students meet grade level expectations. Students will continue to participate in the core curriculum even if they need the support of tier two or tier three interventions. In tier one, teachers will use different strategies within the core curriculum to address student needs. Students who are not progressing at a rate to meet end of year benchmarks in tier one, will be provided interventions matched to their needs. These tier two interventions take place in a small group for 60-90 minutes per week. The students' progress will be tracked with the intervention plan weekly. Interventions occur for a minimum of five weeks, but may continue as needed to ensure student success in the core program. If needed, adjustments may occur in the intervention plan based on the student's progress. Depending on student need and progress, we may change the intervention or increase the frequency, time or intensity of the intervention. This more intense level is considered tier three. Students provided with tier three interventions are placed in smaller groups than tier two, and the number of minutes increases to 180 per week. Monitoring student's progress continues on a weekly basis with the Renaissance tools given.

Another feature of The Learning Lab is to act as a literacy coordinator for grades K-4. Some of the responsibilities are as follows:

- Disseminate student RTI files from the previous year to classroom teachers for students currently involved in the RTI process and maintain files of students continuing in RTI.
- Oversee the implementation of all benchmark assessments and the universal screening for RTI. Determine the cut score on the screener to be used by each grade level or classroom to identify the Tier 1 students.
- Collaborate with the classroom teacher to identify the Tier 1 students.
- Collaborate with classroom teachers toward the final weeks of Tier 1 to predict which, if any students may need to be identified for Tier 2.
- Design and deliver small group specifically targeted interventions for Tier 2 students to address deficit reading skills.
- Maintain appropriate documentation for Tier 2 as well as required charting of slope and growth.
- Maintain a file of all Tier 2 data and monitor the documentation for Tier 1 by classroom teachers.
- Maintain a calendar and monitor appropriate intervals of time and documentation regarding all Tier 2 students.
- Administer additional reading screenings as deemed appropriate.

504 Plans and IEP's

The lab is also used for students who have 504 plans. This is an accommodation plan which is written at Nativity for those children who have been tested by a professional, and are in need of an accommodation in order to reach their full potential in the classroom. 504 plans and IEP's "level the playing field" for the student. The lab is used to carry out accommodations such as extra time on tests, rephrasing directions, separate location for tests etc.

The lab also acts as a liaison between Orchard Park Schools and Nativity. All paperwork and meetings are coordinated through the Learning Lab. As a result of the testing, Orchard Park Central School professionals come **directly to Nativity** during our school day to provide the services for any child who qualifies through an IEP (Individualized Educational Program) or 504 Plan. **Most of the time, these services are on a 3-1 basis.** These services provided by Orchard Park can include PT (Physical Therapy), Speech, Resource Room etc. The Learning Lab also carries out any testing accommodation a child has on an IEP.

Note: At **any** point in this multileveled process, a child may be referred for evaluation under IDEA to determine if he or she is a "child with a disability" as IDEA 2004's regulation defines that term at §300.8. Becoming involved in RTI does not mean that a child has to complete a level, or all levels, of an RTI approach before he or she may be evaluated for eligibility for special education and related services. The IDEA 2004's regulations very clear about this. RTI may not be used as a means of delaying or refusing to conduct such evaluation if the school suspects that the child has a disability or if the parents request.



BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

A private scholarship fund providing tuition assistance for low-income families in the 8 counties of Western New York who want to enroll their children in private schools.

BISON Scholarship Quick Facts:

- Average scholarship of \$1,445 and maximum award of \$2,100.
- Currently BISON has over 1,900 scholars in 81 different private schools in Western New York.
- Each family must contribute toward their child's private education.

Income Eligibility Amounts:

Household Size	Total Income (Based on 2019 household income)
2	\$ 45,657
3	\$ 57,591
4	\$ 69,525
5	\$ 81,459
6	\$ 93,393
7	\$ 105,327
8	\$ 117,261

STEP 1

Complete a **pre-application** online at bisonfund.com between **January 1** and **February 28**. If you have any questions, you can call BISON at (716) 854-0869 ext. 1.

STEP 3

If selected, complete the full application online. Enroll your child(ren) in the school of their choice and ask the school to complete the school commitment form.

STEP 2

Watch for notification after the **BISON Lottery** is held on **March 2**. Lottery winners will receive an email with a link directing them to complete a full application to receive the scholarship. If you're not chosen, you will automatically be placed on the BISON waitlist.

STEP 4

Once all the steps are completed, BISON will notify you of your scholarship amount. Watch for email notices to annually renew your BISON Scholarship in February of each year.



BISON Contact Information:

Cindy McDonald, Program Director (program questions)
Amy Popadick, Executive Director (fundraising questions)
Jean Lorigo, Administrative Coordinator

(716) 854-0869 ext. 1 | cmcdonald@bisonfund.com
(716) 854-0869 ext. 2 | apopadick@bisonfund.com
(716) 854-0869 ext. 3 | jlorigo@bisonfund.com



BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

FAQ FOR FAMILIES

More detailed information can be found on our website at www.bisonfund.com

Who qualifies for a BISON scholarship?

Residents of the 8 counties of WNY with children entering K-8th grade with a total family income within the income eligibility scale. You may only apply for your biological or legal guardian children.

How do new families apply?

New families must complete a pre-application form electronically (online) on our website at bisonfund.com. **The new family deadline is February 28, 2020.** Preference is NOT given to early applications; however you must apply by 2/28 to be considered for the lottery. Families applying after the February 28th deadline will be placed on our waitlist.



How are BISON scholarship recipients chosen?

Scholarships are awarded using a lottery from all submitted pre-application forms in **March 2020**. Lottery winners will receive an email with a link directing them to complete a full application in order to receive the scholarship.

How do I know if I won the lottery?

All applicants will be notified of lottery results by email in **March 2020**. If you're not chosen in the lottery you can always reapply for the next school year.

I received a scholarship award email ... now what?

In your award email, there will be a link that will take you where you need to go to complete your full application. Click on the link and follow the application steps. **The deadline to complete the application is April 30, 2020.** Please be sure to include all your income sources including your FEDERAL 1040 tax return, child support, business income, public assistance, food stamps, Social Security income, unemployment insurance, worker's compensation and financial assistance from family & friends.

Select your school (a complete list can be found on our website) and contact the school to complete the school commitment form. After receipt of all the required documents, your scholarship will be calculated based on your household size and income, as well as tuition amount. You must renew annually to continue with BISON.

I received an email that I'm on a waitlist ... now what?

Unfortunately, there are always more applicants than available funding. We keep waitlist names for the academic year hopeful that additional funding becomes available. If you are not taken off the waitlist, you will need to resubmit a pre-application next year to be considered.

Why do families have to pay part of the tuition?

One key component of educational success is parental involvement. Making a financial sacrifice is a strong incentive to becoming and remaining, involved. BISON scholarships are a hand-up, not a handout. BISON families are required to pay a minimum of \$500 each year.



What if I am not satisfied with my child's school?

You are free to transfer your student to another private school. Your scholarship will transfer with you unless you are delinquent with tuition payments or a child is asked to leave. Contact the BISON Fund office if you decide to transfer and we will walk you through the next steps.

Can the scholarship be used for Pre-K or High School?

The scholarship can't be used for Pre-K. Students must be at least 5 years old by 12/31/20 and entering kindergarten. Our BISON 8th graders will have the opportunity to be entered into the high school lottery for a chance at a high school scholarship.

