

# **AAA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION**

## **ARIZONA SCHOLARSHIP FAQ**

### **What types of scholarships does AAA offer in Arizona?**

AAA Scholarship Foundation offers two types of scholarships which are both funded by corporate tax credit dollars:

- 1) The Corporate Low Income Scholarship
- 2) The Disabled/Displaced (Lexie's Law) Scholarship

### **Corporate Low Income Scholarship**

#### **Who is eligible for Corporate Low-Income scholarships?**

To be eligible for a new scholarship, all six (6) of the following requirements must be met:

1. The household must complete the scholarship application and send it along with **ALL** required supporting documentation listed on the application to the processing company.
2. The student(s) must be:
  - Entering Kindergarten, public school attendance is not required, OR
  - Entering 1st –12<sup>th</sup> grade and have attended 90 days at an Arizona public school, by law, OR
  - Transferring from another Scholarship Tuition Organization (STO), OR
  - A dependent of a military household stationed in Arizona
3. Students must be between 5-22 years old on September 1<sup>st</sup>, by law.
4. The household must not have been disqualified/revoked from the program for any reason, including AAA's internal audit process.
5. The household must be residents of Arizona to apply for a scholarship.
6. The household must document that their prior year gross income was at or below the following income levels:

<b>2019-2020 Household Income/Financial Resources Table</b>				
<b>Household Size</b>	<b>New Households 100% Award</b>	<b>Renewal &amp; Transfer Only Households 100% Award</b>	<b>New, Renewal or Transfer Households 75% Award</b>	<b>New, Renewal or Transfer Households 50% Award</b>
1	\$23,107	\$24,980	\$28,103	\$31,225
2	\$31,284	\$33,820	\$38,048	\$42,275
3	\$39,461	\$42,660	\$47,993	\$53,325
4	\$47,638	\$51,500	\$57,938	\$64,375
Each additional person add:	\$8,177	\$8,840	\$9,945	\$11,050

**What is the maximum scholarship amount that AAA Scholarship Foundation can award a student per year for the Corporate Low Income Scholarship?**

For the 2019/20 school year, the maximum (100%) scholarship for the Corporate Low Income Scholarship is \$5,400 for grades K-8 and \$6,700 for grades 9-12. The scholarship cannot exceed the cost of the school tuition for that year. AAA may award any amount up to the maximum amount allowed by statute. Scholarship awards are dependent on eligibility, available funds and are awarded at the discretion of AAA Scholarship Foundation.

**Disabled/Displaced (Lexie's Law) Scholarship**

**Who is eligible for a Disabled/Displaced (Lexie's Law) Scholarship?**

A student:

1. who is in preschool and is 3 years old on or before September 1st; OR
2. who is entering kindergarten and is 5 years old on or before September 1st; AND
3. who is an Arizona resident; AND
4. who has a current or expired Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team (MET) report or Individual Education Plan (IEP) from an Arizona public school (for preschool and K-12); OR
5. who has a current or expired 504 plan from an Arizona public school (for K-12 only); OR
6. who was placed at one time in the Arizona foster care system (for K-12 only)

**What is the maximum scholarship amount that AAA Scholarship Foundation can award a student per year for the Disabled/Displaced (Lexie's Law) Scholarship?**

The lesser of 90% of the state aid that would have been computed for the student as provided in A.R.S. Title 15, Chapter 9, Article 5, or the cost of tuition for the student to attend the qualified school. AAA may award any amount of scholarship up to the maximum amount allowed by statute. Scholarship awards are dependent on eligibility, available funding and are awarded at the discretion of AAA Scholarship Foundation.

**Applying for an AAA Scholarship**

**What is the best way to apply?**

Our applications are available on our website at <http://www.aaascholarships.org/parents/arizona>. They can be completed online or downloaded, printed and mailed per the instructions on the application. *Only one application is required per household.*

Please fill out the application *completely* and submit *all* required documents with your application.

**NOTE:** It is important that you provide an email address that you check regularly, as email is our preferred method of contacting you with any questions we might have regarding your scholarship status. Please answer all questions on the form.

### **What are the application deadlines?**

Except for those applicants with priority (see “How do you determine scholarship awards?”) our application deadlines are flexible. Scholarships continue to be awarded until donated funds are exhausted. Please check the AAA website regularly for the current scholarship application deadlines.

### **Are students who are currently homeschooled eligible for STO scholarships?**

No, they are not eligible to receive an award unless they are entering kindergarten and enrolling in a qualifying private school.

### **I don't live in Arizona. Can I still apply for scholarships?**

Unfortunately, no. These scholarships are designated for Arizona residents who attend an Arizona private school. However, AAA does offer scholarships in other states. Please check our website at <http://www.aaascholarships.org/parents/> to see if your state is listed.

### **How will I know the status of my application(s)?**

You can check the status of your application by visiting our website <http://www.aaascholarships.org/parents/arizona> and clicking on the “Check the Status of Your Application” link.

### **My application is on hold, now what?**

You will be notified that your application is on-hold via email. That email will include the reason your application is on-hold and how to respond. Please contact us if you have any questions about the email or the application process.

### **How will I be notified if my child is awarded a scholarship?**

You will be notified of your child's scholarship determination by AAA via US Postal Mail to the mailing address that was listed on the application. If your mailing address changes, you must notify AAA.

### **Where can I submit my documents?**

Supporting documents for applications can be uploaded directly into the online application. In addition, they can be scanned and emailed to [azdocs@aaascholarships.org](mailto:azdocs@aaascholarships.org) or mailed directly to *AAA Scholarship Foundation, PO Box 15719, Tampa, FL 33684-0719*

### **How often do I need to apply for a scholarship?**

AAA scholarships are awarded for a period of at least 3 years and may be renewed by submitting a new application once that period is completed.

### **Is there a cost to apply?**

Yes. The application fee is \$30 per online application and \$35 per paper application per family (not per student).

### **How do you determine scholarship award order?**

Scholarships are awarded to eligible students in the following order 1) renewal students, 2) siblings of renewal students, 3) waitlisted students, 4) transfer students and 5) new students. Priority applicants

(#1, 2, & 3) must meet the stated deadlines on the letter accompanying their mailed application to retain their priority status. If the deadline is missed, their application will be processed with the non-priority applicants on a first completed, first awarded basis.

## **Eligible Schools and Scholarship Disbursements**

### **What schools are eligible to accept your scholarship?**

An AAA scholarship may be used for tuition-only at a qualified school. A qualified school:

- is a preschool that offers services to students with disabilities; OR
- is a non-governmental primary, secondary or private school that is located in Arizona and that does not discriminate based on race, color, disability, familial status or national origin; AND
- requires that all teaching staff and personnel that have unsupervised contact with students are fingerprinted; AND
- is not a charter school or any program operated by a charter school or a virtual school
- is not a hybrid school

### **What does a school need to do to become a qualified school and accept your scholarship?**

A school must confirm that they meet all of the state's requirements to be a qualified school (listed above) when they sign an eligible AAA scholarship student's School Commitment Form

### **Can an AAA scholarship student receive funds from more than one STO?**

If a student accepts a scholarship from AAA, then they may not also accept an award from another STO for the same period. Also, if you are approved to receive ESA money from the state, you are not allowed to accept a scholarship from AAA. You can only accept one or the other.

### **When are scholarship payments distributed to schools?**

Scholarship checks are mailed to the school 4 times per year. Parents are responsible for restrictively endorsing the check over to the school before it can be deposited by the school. Scholarship checks may not leave the school property.

### **What happens if my child receives an award but transfers to another school?**

If your child transfers to another private school, that's okay! Bring a copy of the blank School Commitment Form (SCF) that you received from AAA with your award letter to the new school, have them complete it and email it to us at [azdocs@aaascholarships.org](mailto:azdocs@aaascholarships.org).

## **More Questions?**

### **If I have questions, whom can I call?**

Call AAA at 888-707-2465 for any questions related to your child's scholarship.

### **Where can I find more information?**

Please refer to the Parent/School Handbook on our website at

<http://www.aaascholarships.org/parents/arizona>