



Georgia School Eligibility Flyer

Private School Eligibility Requirements

Georgia Eligible schools are private schools (grades pre-K4-12) that meet the following criteria as determined by the Georgia Department of Education (DOE):

Accredited or in the process of becoming accredited by one or more accreditation agencies:

1. The Georgia Accrediting Commission;
2. The Georgia Association of Christian Schools;
3. The Georgia Private School Accreditation Council;
4. The Association of Christian Schools International;
5. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
6. The Southern Association of Independent Schools;
7. The New England Association of Schools and Colleges;
8. The Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools;
9. The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools;
10. The Northwestern Association of Schools and Colleges;
11. The Western Association of Schools and Colleges; and/or
12. The Alabama Independent School Association.

Physically located in Georgia;

*Adheres to the provisions of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

Satisfies the private school requirements prescribed in Georgia state law.

Private schools cannot be accredited as a Non-Traditional Education Center (serving home-schooled students)

<http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/resources/specialtopics/tanf/crrequirementsvi.html>*

Parental Tuition Payments

Parental tuition payments are necessary when an eligible private school's tuition and fees total *more* than the awarded scholarship. The household is responsible for the additional charges that exceed the awarded scholarship.

At times, the school may award a non-tax credit supplemental scholarship to the household, but if this does not occur, the difference is the sole responsibility of the household. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

All households must remain current with their payments to the school for any amounts owed by the household, not including the scholarship payments. Failure to pay or make arrangements to pay a balance owed may result in the school suspending or expelling the student. If the student is expelled, they will no longer be eligible for the scholarship.

AAA Scholarship Foundation will not renew or transfer scholarships while money is owed to a school unless a current payment plan is in place.

Direct Deposit (Schools)

The private schools will receive ACH payments instead of paper checks. This eliminates the requirement for schools to obtain parent signatures, as parents will approve the payment ahead of time by logging into the SMP portal and completing their part of the Verification Report process. Each student's AAA ID will be included as a reference with each ACH payment that is sent to the bank.

Scholarship Payments

By accepting the scholarship student(s) and scholarship payment(s), the school agrees to repay any incorrectly made or overpayment of funds on behalf of the student(s), regardless of the reason. Failure to return the funds to AAA could lead to loss of eligibility as a participating school in the scholarship program and/or may lead to legal ramifications relating to the scholarship laws. The household is responsible for any balance of tuition/fees not covered by the scholarship.

Scholarships are generally paid in four installments throughout the 36-week school year (see Scholarship Funding Amounts on page 7 for exceptions). The payment calendar can be found at <https://www.aaascholarships.org/schools/georgia/>

Payment Verification Reports will be online, and the school and parent must complete the process to receive scholarship payments. Before each installment is processed, verification reports will be online for the school and parent to complete, listing the student's name and scholarship payment amount. The SCHOOL must 1) verify each student's information, 2) indicate each student's absences to date, and 3) state whether the household is current with any monies privately owed to the school. The schools submit the verification report online. Schools must explain any "no" answers, on this report and/or attach documentation. **View Tutorial:** <https://www.aaascholarships.org/parents/video-tutorials/>

The PARENT/GUARDIAN A will 1) receive a notification by email to review the verification report and will have to login to the SMP 2) will click Verification Report Active for the individual student. **View Tutorial:** <https://www.aaascholarships.org/parents/video-tutorials/>

A payment is issued for each scholarship student attending a school, even if multiple students are from the same household. Scholarship payments will be direct deposited to the eligible school selected by the household.

Student withdrawal may result in the school being required to reimburse AAA for the difference between actual time period attended, and actual scholarship funds received to date. For information on changing schools during the year, see the "Student Transfer Procedure" on page 10 of this handbook. The scholarship only pays for services rendered.

If any student receiving an AAA scholarship also receives a scholarship from another Scholarship Tuition Organization or a State Funded Scholarship, the school/guardian must contact AAA, and

the school must return the un-cashed check to AAA immediately. Failure to report such situations to AAA may result in a school's loss of eligibility to enroll new scholarship students and/or to legal ramifications relating to the scholarship laws.

If a school receives a payment for a student who is not currently attending their school, they must refund AAA immediately unless it is the final "exit" payment as determined by AAA. If the student has expenses over and above tuition for actual attendance at their school before the receipt of payment, it is the household's responsibility to pay the debt. If pro-rated monies are owed to the school, a payment will be issued following receipt of the Student Withdrawal Form (SWF).

Failure to refund monies to AAA in these situations could lead to loss of eligibility as a participating school in the AAA scholarship program and/or may lead to legal ramifications relating to the scholarship laws.

[Download the Georgia Parent & School Handbook for more detailed information on our policies and procedures.](#)