



2550 Millville Ave. | Hamilton, Ohio 45013 | 513-863-8705

Grace

Mercy

Virtue

Love

Dear Families,

**There are three main types of financial aid for the 2026-2027 school year:**

## **1) Catholic Education Foundation (CEF)**

Eligible: Preschool through 8th Grade

The information on how to access the CEF application portal is located on our website ([queenofpeacehamilton.org](http://queenofpeacehamilton.org)). These grants are needs-based and will include families up to 750% FPL. Families will complete a FACTS Grant and Aid application to be considered for this assistance. **The deadline for applying is February 28th, 2026.**

## **2) EdChoice**

Eligible: Kindergarten through 8th Grade

### **A) If you are RENEWING an EdChoice Scholarship.....**

\*\*\*\*First off, you do NOT need to go through the income verification process again. That is a one-time experience UNLESS you *want* the state to reevaluate your income because it has fallen and could place you in a higher scholarship award bracket.\*\*\*\*

**You can provide your application materials to me as soon as you have them ready. The best way to provide the application materials is to send a STAND-ALONE email directly to me with the required materials attached as two separate PDF or JPG files. To be more specific, you should send me the following:**

- 1 file with the EdChoice Renewal Form for 2026-2027 (blank form attached)
- 1 file with most recent utility bill

\*\*\*If you have more than one student applicant, send a separate email for each.\*\*\*

**Again, please send this information in a stand-alone email (not a reply to this one). The subject line should read "EDCHOICE APPLICATION MATERIALS FOR [insert student name]".**

While an email with scans is best, you may also hand-deliver hard copies of the three required pieces of info.

**B) If you are REQUESTING an EdChoice Scholarship for a student who did not apply for one in the 2025-2026 request window.....**

**You can provide your application materials to me as soon as you have them ready. The best way to provide the application materials is to send a STAND-ALONE email directly to me with the required materials attached as three separate PDF or JPG files. To be more specific, you should send me the following:**

- 1 file with the EdChoice Request Form for 2026-2027 (blank form attached)**
- 1 file with a recent utility bill**
- 1 file with a copy of birth certificate**

\*\*\*If you have more than one student applicant, send a separate email for each.\*\*\*

**Again, please send this information in a stand-alone email (not a reply to this one). The subject line should read "EDCHOICE APPLICATION MATERIALS FOR [insert student name]".**

While an email with scans is best, you may also hand-deliver hard copies of the three required pieces of info.

**\*\*\*\*If your child is assigned to Fairwood Elementary School or Garfield Middle School in the Hamilton City School District, you are eligible for a Traditional EdChoice scholarship and should indicate this on your REQUEST form. If not, you are applying for an EdChoice Expansion (income-based) scholarship.\*\*\*\***

For more information on EdChoice Scholarships, go to  
<https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Other-Resources/Scholarships/EdChoice-Scholarship>

### **3) St. Stephen Assistance Fund**

This assistance is available to K-8 families who do not receive the maximum level of EdChoice Scholarship. This assistance can only be renewed. At this juncture, there are no first-time recipients. We do our best to renew awards at current levels. We will communicate information to eligible recipients on April 15<sup>th</sup>. There is no application to fill out or formal request to make. If we need info from you, we will request it.

**If you have any questions whatsoever about anything related to CEF, EdChoice, St. Stephen, or financial aid in general, please let me know! I want to help you out as best I can!**

Sincerely,

Josh Mears

Principal

[jmears@qphamilton.org](mailto:jmears@qphamilton.org)