

School District of Oakfield  
Notice of Special Needs Scholarship Program

This notice serves to inform parents and guardians of students with disabilities that the State of Wisconsin has established the Special Needs Scholarship Program. Under this scholarship program and as further specified in state law, a child with a disability who has been denied the opportunity to attend a nonresident school district under the full-time open enrollment program may be eligible to receive a scholarship from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) that allows the child to attend an eligible private school that is participating in the Special Needs Scholarship Program.

This is a state administered program. A parent or guardian who is interested in the Special Needs Scholarship Program should independently verify the participating private schools and the specific terms, eligibility criteria, and application procedures of the scholarship program with the DPI.

Eligible students are those that meet the following requirements:

- Has a current individualized education program (IEP) or services plan.
- Resides in Wisconsin.
- Has been denied from attending school in any nonresident district under the public school open enrollment. If applying in the 2016-17 school year, the student must have been denied open enrollment in all nonresident school districts they applied and their appeal upheld in one school year between 2011-12 and 2016-17.
- Attended a public school during the previous year.

The Special Needs Scholarship Program is further defined under section 115.7915 of the state statutes. However, special eligibility requirements not found in the statute exist for program scholarships that are awarded for private school attendance that initially begins in the 2016-17 school year. Additional information about the program should be available on the website of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction: <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/special-needs-scholarship>.

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