

What is a scholarship granting organization?

A scholarship granting organization, or SGO, is a 501c3 non-profit organization whose primary aim is to give scholarships to students.

How do I make a donation?

While much of the process is outlined in the legislation, there are many details that are not yet decided.

Once we have the information from the Department of Revenue, we will let donors know.

Donations can begin on January 1, 2018.

Please contact us to be placed on our mailing list of interested donors.

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Private School Tax Credit Scholarship Information for Donors

2017-2018



What is a Tax Credit Scholarship Program?

It allows individuals and corporations to donate to scholarship granting organizations and receive a credit on their state taxes in return. These organizations can then use this money to grant scholarships to qualifying students.

A tax credit scholarship program is NOT a tuition tax credit. It does not allow parents to get a credit for tuition paid on behalf of their own child.

How much is the credit worth?

An individual or corporate donor will receive a 75% credit on their donation. This means that if a donor donates \$10,000, they will receive a state tax credit of \$7,500.

Donations by both individual and corporate donors are capped at \$1 million.

Individual donors can direct their donations to the school or subset of schools of their choice. Corporate donors cannot designate.

The credit is non-refundable (meaning it can not take a taxpayers liability below zero), but can be carried forward for five years.

Can a donor receive a federal tax deduction in addition to a state tax credit for the same donation?

No. The legislation specifically prohibits this.

Is there program cap? If so, what is it?

Yes, there is a cap. It is \$75 million.

How does that donation process work?

Beginning on January 1, 2018, individual and corporate donors will be able to reserve tax credits on a Department of Revenue website.

They will then have 60 days to donate the amount they reserved to the scholarship granting organization(s) of their choice.

After donating, they will receive a certificate of receipt from the scholarship granting organization, indicating that a donation was made.

The scholarship granting organization will then notify the Department of Revenue that a donation was made.

If a donor doesn't donate, rescinds their donation, or gives less than they indicated to the Department of Revenue, they will not receive ANY tax credit.

All unused tax credits will be put back into the program until the cap is hit.

Will all the tax credits and scholarships go to Chicago?

No. There is a requirement in the new law that the Department of Revenue ensure distribution of scholarships throughout the entire state in proportion with the nonpublic school enrollment. However, after June 1 of each year, remaining credits will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis without regard to location.

Also, remember that *individual donors* can designate a school or group of schools to receive the scholarship money.

How long will these tax credits be available?

A taxpayer may take a credit under this act beginning on or after January 1, 2018 and ending before January 1, 2023. If the legislature does not extend this tax credit, it will automatically be repealed on January 1, 2024.