

# STUDENTS: HOW TO APPLY FOR A TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP

FAMILIES OF K-12 STUDENTS CAN APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS BEGINNING JANUARY 24, 2018.

The Tax Credit Scholarship will cover up to 100% of private school tuition up to a maximum of the average Illinois cost to educate, which is roughly \$13,000.

Students with unique learning needs, including those who are gifted, English language learners, or those with special education qualifications, will receive larger scholarships — up to double— roughly \$26,000.

Tax Credit Scholarships are need based and do not take academic performance into consideration.

## THE PROCESS

**01.** Families submit a complete application. See below for what an application requires.

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**02.** Families are notified of their application status.

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**03.** Students begin school admission and enrollment process.\*

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**04.** Scholarship award notifications are sent to families beginning in February and continue until available funds are used.

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**05.** Funds will be distributed to schools at the start of the 2018-2019 school year. Empower Illinois will work directly with schools and organizations to distribute funds.

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- The school admission process is separate from the scholarship process. A scholarship does not guarantee admittance.

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST



A copy of your family's 2016 federal tax return. If the family did not file a 2016 tax return, please contact us at [info@empowerillinois.org](mailto:info@empowerillinois.org)



Proof of Illinois residency, such as:

- Current utility bill
- Current driver license



Documentation of the student's age, such as:

- A copy of the student's birth certificate
- Federal or State ID
- A passport



If available, a letter of acceptance or enrollment at an eligible, participating, non-public school.

[empowerillinois.org](http://empowerillinois.org)