

# LINDSEY NICOLE HENRY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

The Lindsey Nicole Henry (LNH) Scholarship Act authorizes the parent or guardian of a public school student with a disability who is served under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to exercise their parental option and request to have an LNH Scholarship awarded for their child to attend a participating private school approved by the State Board of Education. The Act also authorizes LNH scholarship eligibility for the following categories of students:

- A student who has had an Individualized Service Plan developed by the Department of Human Services (DHS)
- A student who is a child of a military family with permanent change of station orders who has moved to Oklahoma after receiving IDEA services in another state
- A student who has been served through the SoonerStart program and during transition has been determined to be eligible for school district services
- A student who has been in out-of-home placement through the office of Juvenile Affairs
- A student who has been in out-of-home placement with DHS, or who was adopted while in the permanent custody of DHS

For students who are eligible due to their status as a public school student served under IDEA, the scholarship is awarded if the child is on an Individualized Education Program (IEP) prior to the request and has spent the previous school year in attendance at a public school in Oklahoma. SoonerStart children and military children are exempt from the public school attendance requirement; however, they are required to have an IEP. These students will submit the following documentation along with their LNH Scholarship application:

- Multidisciplinary Evaluation and Eligibility Group Summary Form (MEEGS)
- Current IEP
- Private school acceptance letter
- Vendor Payee form

For students who are eligible due to their DHS status, they are exempt from the IEP and the public school attendance requirement. These students only need to submit an acceptance letter from a participating private school along with the LNH Scholarship application and Vendor Payee form. The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) will request additional documentation regarding the child's ISP and adoption if applicable from DHS.

Additionally, according to Section (F)(1) of the LNH Act: "Acceptance of the Lindsey Nicole Henry Scholarship shall have the same effect as a parental revocation of consent for services pursuant to 20 U.S.C., Sections 1414(a)(1)(D) and 1414(C) of IDEA." As required by the revocation of consent provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, a federal law, and the LNH Act, when a parent accepts an LNH scholarship, (1) the student is no longer entitled to received special education and related services from any Oklahoma public school district and (2) each Oklahoma public school district must treat the student as a nondisabled student for all purposes, including discipline. Upon acceptance of an LNH scholarship, the parent/guardian will receive a Written Notice from the student's public school district that confirms this information.

Application information is available on the [OSDE website](https://www.osde.ok.gov/) at [bit.ly/LNHscholarship](https://bit.ly/LNHscholarship) or by mail from OSDE by calling (405) 521-3351.