



K-12 PRIVATE SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Great Aspirations Scholarship Program (GRASP) participates in Virginia’s Education Improvement Scholarship Program (EISP) for students in kindergarten to twelfth grade who attend accredited private schools. Recipients of EISP scholarships are Virginia residents from low to moderate income families. GRASP is one of 35 approved foundations statewide that participates in this program. Some of the initial schools to benefit from GRASP’s participation in this program are New Community, Northstar, and Riverside School. GRASP welcomes other schools as potential partners, particularly those who educate students with learning differences.

The Virginia Department of Education determines the maximum annual scholarship amount. Annual amounts vary by locality and donor support and range from \$2,600 to \$6,400 for the 2016-2017 school year. For example, for residents of Henrico County and the City of Richmond, for the coming school year, scholarships are up to \$4,727 and \$5,115 respectively. Scholarships are renewable, dependent upon donor support. **Certain K-12 private schools GRASP works with have a rolling admission policy, thus it is not too late for students to apply to those schools and receive an EISP scholarship for the 2016-17 academic year.**

Eligible Students’ Families Fall in these Income Categories		
Family Size	Student does not have an IEP	Student has an IEP
		300%
1	\$35,640	\$47,520
2	48,060	\$64,080
3	60,480	\$80,640
4	72,900	\$97,200

Please contact GRASP for details.
Income thresholds are for 2016-2017.

Scholarship recipient qualifications are determined by the Virginia Legislature which requires that to be considered for a scholarship, students must fall in at least one of these five categories:

- In the current school year, the student has enrolled and attended a Virginia public school for at least one half of the year, or
- For the school year that immediately preceded the student’s receipt of a scholarship the student was enrolled and attended a public school in Virginia, or
- The student is eligible for kindergarten or first grade, or
- The student was not a resident of Virginia during the preceding year and did not attend a public school in Virginia, or
- The student is a prior recipient of a scholarship from a scholarship foundation such as GRASP EISP.

Funding for the GRASP EISP scholarship program is provided by individual and business donations by donors who wish to assist deserving young people along the path to education and independence. Qualified donors may receive a federal 35% charitable deduction and a 65% Virginia tax credit.

GRASP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, charitable, college-access organization that assists students and families in obtaining funding for post-secondary education. The program’s goal is to ensure that every student has an equal opportunity for continuing education after high school, regardless of financial or social circumstances. Regardless of a family’s circumstances, GRASP financial aid advisors help students overcome challenges to participating in the dream of an education after high school. GRASP’s Chairman is Dr. Bob Holsworth. The organization was co-founded in 1983 by Senator Walter A. Stosch and Dr. Ray Garguilo.

For more information, contact Miriam Tice, GRASP EISP Coordinator, at mtice@grasp4virginia.com