

My family chose the EdChoice Scholarship program to provide a better educational opportunity for our son. We would not be able to afford a better high school or in our case a Catholic High School without the program as it exists. Keeping the program as it exists is very important to our family and our son's future. Please do not change the program away from its school performance-based metric for qualification.

We are looking for an option that best meets our son's needs and there is not anyone else that can better determine or understand those needs. We have been waiting for this opportunity for years and this year we were notified that our son will qualify next year based on the inclusion of our district's high school poor academic performance. This was great news and will enable our son to have a brighter future that he would not otherwise have. We have paid fees to several high schools already for testing, FACTS application, and much more. We have spent many hours testing and applying and put much into the opportunity already since we were notified of the EdChoice Scholarship for our son.

It now appears that after spending many hours and our money, that our State Representatives and Senators have been persuaded by SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS like the Public Employee Unions (Teachers Union), Public Schools, and other special interest groups not disclosed by our elected representatives that the rules will change to accommodate them over the need our children. It is unfair, deceptive, and poor public policy to change the rules at this date. Why do our public servants seem to serve special interest groups over Ohio's children on this issue? Keeping our children in failing public schools that are not working for them is wrong on many levels and a waste of taxpayer money. Many would argue that there should be more schools placed on this failing list not fewer as stated by some people. Given that the way we fund our schools currently has been found unconstitutional, how can our Ohio Representatives and Senators choose to continue to side with the same special interest groups that have caused our schools to fail in the first place. Who are you serving? The EdChoice Scholarship program as it exists is very important to a lot of voters. We should expand school choice at every possible opportunity not decrease it. Everyone knows the public school teachers/administrators cannot allow competition less they be exposed and this is yet another example of how they work with our state representatives to maintain their poor performance, lack of accountability, and bloated budgets. Please keep the EdChoice program as it exists (school performance based). Do not pander to those that do not have our children's needs in mind.