



Quick Facts about the Special Needs Scholarship Program

1. Private Schools participating in the Special Needs Scholarship Program are not required to provide special education services to students.
2. Scholarship funds in most cases do not cover all costs at a private school and are only intended to offset tuition and fees at a private school.
3. Scholarship funds cannot be used to offset the costs of out of district tuition, charter schools, transportation, or other options available under public school choice.
4. Promotion or retention of a student **does not** affect eligibility for the Special Needs Scholarship Program.
5. A student may continue to participate in the GSNS Program as long as:
 - ✓ Student has continual enrollment and attendance in a private school participating in the GSNS Program; and
 - ✓ Student remains a resident of Georgia; and
 - ✓ Student's parent/guardian remain residents of Georgia; and
 - ✓ Parent/guardian complies with GSNS Program law and rule.
6. An IEP does not need to be kept current to continue a student's participation in the Special Needs Scholarship Program.
7. Eligibility for the GSNS Program ends if:
 - ✓ A student leaves an authorized private school and doesn't re-enroll in another authorized private school. OR
 - ✓ A student graduates from high school. OR
 - ✓ A student turns 21 years old and has not yet graduated from high school.
8. Scholarship funds **cannot** be used to pay for the following:
 - **Transportation**
 - **Before or after school care**
 - **Meals**
 - **Tutoring**
 - **Fees associated with field trips**
 - **Athletic fees**
 - **School supplies**
 - **Summer school programs**
 - **Other fees as determined by the GaDOE.**

For complete information regarding the Special Needs Scholarship Program go to <http://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/Policy/Pages/Special-Needs-Scholarship-Program.aspx>