



Department
of Education

John R. Kasich, Governor
Michael L. Sawyers, Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction

To: LEA Superintendents and Special Education Directors

From: Sue Zake, Director, Office for Exceptional Children
Sue Cosmo, Associate Director, Office of Quality School Choice and
Funding - Nonpublic Educational Options

Date: September 24, 2012

Subject: Required Parent Notification of Scholarship Programs for Students with
Disabilities

Senate Bill 316 established a new requirement related to students with disabilities that becomes effective on September 24, 2012. Per Ohio Revised Code Section 3323.052, each time a school district completes an evaluation for a child with a disability, or undertakes the development, review or revision of the child's IEP the district shall notify the child's parent by letter or electronic means about both the Autism Scholarship Program, under section 3310.41 of the Revised Code, and the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program, under Sections 3310.51 to 3310.64 of the Revised Code.

The content of the notification must include the information below:

Parent Notification of Scholarship Programs for Students with Disabilities

Your child may be eligible for a scholarship under the Autism Scholarship Program or the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program to attend a special education program that implements the child's individualized education program and that is operated by an alternative public provider or by a registered private provider.

Information on scholarship programs are available from the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) web site at www.education.ohio.gov.

- For information on the Autism Scholarship Program, search *Autism Scholarship Program*
- For information on the Jon Peterson Special Needs Scholarship Program, search *Jon Peterson Scholarship*.

For additional information or questions on these scholarship programs, contact:
Office of Nonpublic Educational Options
(614) 466-5743
Toll-free: (877) 644-6338
email: autismscholarship@education.ohio.gov
email: peterson.scholarship@education.ohio.gov