

Carson Smith Scholarship Notice

School districts, including charter schools, are required by Utah Law, 53A1a-704 (10), to inform parents of students with IEPs enrolled in public schools, of the availability of a scholarship to attend a private school through the Carson Smith Scholarship Program.

Further information available at:

<http://www.schools.utah.gov/sars/Quick-Links/Carson-Smith-Scholarship.aspx>

For SASSIE News – May 12, 2011

From Peggy Milligan, Coordinator

Carson Smith Special Needs Scholarship

R277-602. Special Needs Scholarships – Funding and Procedures

Purpose is to outline responsibilities for parents/students/public schools, school districts or charter schools, and eligible private schools that accept scholarships from special needs students and the State board of Education is providing choice for parents of special needs students who choose to have their children served in private schools and in providing accountability for the citizenry in the administration and distribution of the scholarship funds.

R277-602-4 A-C School District or Charter School Responsibilities

The school district or charter school that receives the student's scholarship application from students/parents shall;

- Forward applications to Special Education Department c/o Barbara Brickmore/Peggy Milligan no more than 10 following receipt of the application.
- Verify enrollment of the student seeking a scholarship in previous school year
- Verify existence of the student's IEP and level of service
- Provide personnel to participate on an assessment team to determine
 - If a student who was previously enrolled in a private school that has previously served students with disabilities would qualify for special education services if enrolled in a public school and the appropriate level of special education services which would be provided were the child enrolled in a public school for purposes of determining the scholarship amount.
 - If a student previously receiving a special needs scholarship is entitled to receive the scholarship during the subsequent eligibility period (re-evaluation)
- Cooperate with the USOE in cross-checking special needs scholarship student enrollment information
- Not dual enroll special needs scholarship students or provide extracurricular activities
- Notify students with IEPs for the following:
 - Written notice to parents or guardians, of students who have an IEP, of the availability of a scholarship to attend a private school through the Special Needs Scholarship program
 - Include the statement "*School districts and charter schools are required by Utah law, 531a-704(1), to inform parents of students with IEPs enrolled in public schools, of the availability of a scholarship to attend a private school through the Carson Smith Scholarship Program*".
- No later than 30 days after the student initially qualifies for an IEP
- Annually, no later than February 1 to all students who have IEPs
- Include the address of the Internet website maintained by the USOE that provides prospective applicants and their parents with program information and application forms for the CSS Program
<http://www.schools.utah.gov/sars/Quick-Links/Carson-Smith-Scholarship.aspx>
- And post the CSS internet website on the school district's or school's website