

# Virginia K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants: \$1,500 Standard Application

## What are K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants?

The Virginia Department of Education's \$30 million K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants program provides funds for families to access tutoring and educational services their children need to address the impact of the pandemic on their academic progress and well-being. The funds are provided to families through an electronic payment platform, which will be used to pay tutors and educational service providers for qualified expenditures and approved services rendered to eligible students.

Qualifying students whose family income does not exceed 300% of the Federal Poverty Guideline level will receive a \$3,000 K-12 Learning Acceleration Grant; all other qualifying students will receive a \$1,500 K-12 Learning Acceleration Grant.

The K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants program will empower families to access approved tutoring, summer enrichment programs, and other specialized services their students need to reach their full potential and combat severe learning losses. Families of eligible students who are awarded grants may access and choose tutors and educational service providers to help their children succeed and be academically successful.

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE READ CAREFULLY\*\*\***

## Who is eligible to receive a K-12 Learning Acceleration Grant?

Your student, whether in public school, private school or home-school is eligible if the student currently meets the following eligibility criteria:

1. The student is school-aged, which means a student who:
  - a. will have reached his or her fifth birthday on or before September 30 of the school year and who has not reached twenty years of age on or before August 1 of the school year, **OR**
  - b. is a student with a qualifying disability who will have reached their second birthday on or before September 30th of the school year and who has not reached twenty-two years of age on or before August 1st of the school year; **AND**
  - c. has not graduated.
2. The student resides in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**If your student does not meet the eligibility criteria, do not apply for the K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants program.**

## How much of a K-12 Learning Acceleration Grant could my student receive?

There are two levels of K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants available from the \$30 million fund for Virginia families. An application may be submitted for each eligible student as follows:

1. \$1,500 - an application is necessary, but income-verification is not required, OR
2. \$3,000 - an application is necessary, as well as documentation of family income which falls **at or below 300%** of the Federal Poverty Guideline. (Note: Families have 45 days to provide documentation which meets income eligibility requirements for the \$3,000 grant. If documentation is not received, the Virginia Department of Education will award a \$1,500 grant to eligible students.)

Persons in Family/Household	Federal Poverty Guideline	300% of Federal Poverty Guideline
1	\$14,580	\$43,740
2	\$19,720	\$59,160
3	\$24,860	\$74,580
4	\$30,000	\$90,000
5	\$35,140	\$105,420

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6	\$40,280	\$120,840
7	\$45,420	\$136,260
8	\$50,560	\$151,680
For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$5,140 for each additional person.		

### How do I apply?

You must create an account first by clicking "Create Your Account" in the top right-hand corner, or if you are an existing FACTS user just click "Sign In" to log in and begin.

- Please be aware that the K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants program is limited to \$30 million.
- Please complete the application with the understanding that submitting an application does not guarantee an award.
- In the event funds exhausted, you will be notified if additional funds are attributed and become available.
- Those who have completed the application will be considered first for any additional funds.

### How Can the K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants Be Used?

If your student is eligible and receives a K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants award, you will be asked to create an online K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants account to gain access to the ClassWallet platform. You may then shop for approved services which are supported as qualified expenses on the ClassWallet's platform.

#### Qualified expenses include:

1. **Tutoring services** - may be provided in-person, virtually, or hybrid, and in one-on-one, small group, or large-group settings.
2. **Specialized educational therapy services and supports** - Speech and language therapy. Specialized reading instruction, or other specific services provided by a licensed practitioner recognized by any state board or agency.
3. **Assistive Technology** - assistive technology devices and services and augmentative communication devices to be used primarily in the home and community settings.  
Note: the amount of an awarded grant that may be used for qualifying assistive technology costs is limited to \$750.

#### Approved services include:

1. **Tutoring services** paid for under the K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants program must be provided by:
  - a. Tutors who are currently licensed teachers in any endorsement area in any state;
  - b. Tutors who were previously licensed teachers in any endorsement area in any state and whose licenses expired but were not revoked or cancelled;
  - c. Tutors who are currently employed as instructional staff at any accredited private or parochial school;
  - d. Tutors who are currently employed as instructional staff at any accredited college or university; or
  - e. Evidence-based tutoring and learning centers.
2. **Specialized educational therapy services and supports** paid for under the K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants program must be provided by:
  - a. Licensed service providers in area of specialty/practice (speech-language pathology, occupational therapy, physical therapy, board certified behavior analyst etc.) recognized by any state board or agency.
3. **Assistive Technologies** paid for under the K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants program include the following, grouped by need (Note: limited to \$750 from an awarded grant):
  - a. Products designed to assist with vision, including magnifiers and CCTV systems, talking scales, screen readers, screen magnifiers and Braille displays.
  - b. Products designed to assist with hearing, including personal amplification systems, wireless personal amplification systems and group assistive listening systems.
  - c. Products designed to assist with speaking and face-to-face communication for individuals with speech disabilities, including speech generating devices, communication boards and books, speech output software, devices that produce text but not voice output for face-to-face communication, voice clarifiers, voice amplifiers and stuttering aids.

d. Products to provide people with disabilities access to educational materials and instruction and assist with learning and cognition, including calculators; clocks, timers, and wake-up systems; general personal organization products; memory aids; money-management aids; notetaking and recording devices; and electronic organizers and personal digital assistants.

Note, to ensure students receive the earliest possible benefits of the K-12 Learning Acceleration Grants to combat learning loss, the first \$750.00 of awarded grants must be spent by August 15, 2023, on the vetted and approved tutoring, assistive technology, or educational service providers.