



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
333 MARKET STREET  
HARRISBURG, PA 17126-0333

DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ELEMENTARY  
AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

717-787-2127

Mr Eric B Turman  
Superintendent  
Harrisburg City School District  
1601 State Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17103-1466

Dear Superintendent Turman,

The Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program was created pursuant to Act 85 of 2012 (72 P.S. § 1701-G.1, *et seq*) and amended by Act 86 of 2016 (24 P.S. § 2001-B, *et seq*). This program enables eligible students, residing within the boundaries of low-achieving schools, to apply for a scholarship to attend a participating public or nonpublic school.

Low-achieving schools are defined as public elementary and secondary schools (excluding brick-and-mortar and cyber charter schools, and area vocational-technical schools) within the Commonwealth that ranked in the lowest 15 percent of its designation (elementary or secondary) for the school year, based on the combined Mathematics/Algebra I and Reading/Literature scores from the most recent annual assessments (PASA, PSSA, and/or Keystone) administered.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) posts the list of low-achieving schools annually so that eligible students can apply for scholarships for the upcoming school year. Students who reside in an attendance zone of a school that was on a previous list of low performing schools but is not on the 2021-2022 school year list may also apply to a scholarship organization to continue receiving a scholarship.

PDE is required to officially notify you that the Harrisburg City School District has been identified as having one school designated as a low-achieving school, based upon 2021-22 school year assessments. The following are the school codes and school names within the district designated as low achieving:

000008268	BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SCH
000008264	CAMP CURTIN ACADEMY
000008376	COUGAR ACADEMY
000008265	DOWNEY SCH
000001766	FOOSE SCH
000006333	HARRISBURG HS
000008266	MARSHALL ACADEMY
000008267	MELROSE SCH

000007623	ROWLAND ACADEMY
000007667	SCOTT SCH

Pursuant to 24 P.S. § 2010-B(C), the district must post on its publicly accessible internet website information about this program within 15 days of receipt of this letter. PDE has compiled and attached the following information in an overview document, which the district must place on its website:

1. The overview of the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program includes:
  - a. A description of the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program
  - b. Instructions to apply for an Opportunity Scholarship
  - c. Parental responsibilities regarding enrolling their child in a participating public or nonpublic school
2. A list of schools in the district that have been designated as low-achieving schools (listed above).

Additionally, within 15 days of receipt of this letter, the district must also notify the parents of each student who is currently attending or residing within the attendance boundary of a low-achieving school, of that school's designation. The district must also notify parents of kindergarten students registered or registering in a low-achieving school of the school's designation. This notice shall be given by sending the attached letter (sample parent letter) PDE has created, which is also provided as an attachment.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey A. Fuller, Ed.D  
Deputy Secretary

Enclosures

Tom Dubbs  
Basic Education Associate II  
PA Department of Education  
School Services Office  
333 Market Street  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Harrisburg, PA 17126  
(717) 214-8212  
[tdubbs@pa.gov](mailto:tdubbs@pa.gov)  
[www.education.pa.gov](http://www.education.pa.gov)