



# CULLEN SCHOLARS PROGRAM

## OVERVIEW

Students seeking a unique and rewarding academic experience provided by Erie County's private schools have an exciting opportunity. Cullen Foundation is a private foundation dedicated to enhancing education for students and advancing performing arts for Erie County, New York. We believe access to high quality education is critical for individual and community success. The Foundation seeks to assist families of high-achieving students in mitigating the financial challenges of attaining a private middle school and high school education through our Cullen Scholars Program.

## HOW IT WORKS

- We provide an opportunity to a select group of high-performing students entering grade 6 to receive scholarship support through grade 12. We enable each scholar to attend a private school of his/her choosing within the BISON Scholarship Fund network of schools and subsequently the Education Collaborative of WNY (EdCo) network of schools.
- Cullen Scholars are selected based on academic achievement, financial need, and character. Scholarships are renewable for up to eight years while a student attends a BISON or EdCo school, contingent on meeting our academic and financial need criteria each year.
- Cullen Scholars are required to participate in Buffalo Prep, which provides access, preparation, and support to students in their advancement towards success in college preparatory high schools and higher education.
- The Cullen Scholars Program provides access to private schools for students of color from low-income households. We offer this opportunity to high-achieving students while increasing the diversity of experience for all private school students.

## Eligibility Criteria

*for Cullen Scholar Nominees*

- Student is in 5th grade, entering 6th grade in the 2022/2023 school year
- Student is in good standing with a "B" or above average
- Student must be an Erie County resident
- Student is nominated by
  - A family member
  - A school staff member
  - Other individuals
- Student must be a person of color
- Student's family must meet household income eligibility criteria below\*

## Annual Income Eligibility Scale\*

Household Size	Maximum Income
2	\$46,548
3	\$58,644
4	\$70,740
5	\$82,836
6	\$94,932
7	\$107,028
8	\$119,124

*\* As of 2021. Updated annually*



## MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOLARS

The award for Middle School Scholars will cover base tuition up to \$4,050 and a technology and activity stipend of \$250 annually.



## HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARS

The award for High School Scholars will cover base tuition up to \$12,750 and a technology and activity stipend of \$500 annually.



## COSTS ABOVE SCHOLARSHIP

Should total tuition costs exceed the allotted scholarship award amount, scholars will be responsible for paying or securing support for the remaining tuition costs.