



OHIO CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NETWORK

A Network of Center for Christian Virtue

To: OCEN Member Schools and SGO Contributors
From: Troy McIntosh, OCEN Executive Director
Date: 3/24/25
Re: Do OCEN SGO contributions reduce public school funding?

With the growth of the scholarship granting organization tax credit in Ohio, the question have occasionally been asked by donor whether their gift will reduce the amount of funding their local public school will receive. As a state-certified scholarship granting organization, OCEN SGO reassures its constituents that contributions to any SGO will NOT result in a reduction of state funding that would otherwise be allocated to a local public school. Some helpful facts to keep in mind regarding school funding and the SGO program:

1. Public school districts are funded by the state from the General Revenue Fund (GRF) on a per pupil basis. In other words, every student that attends a public school receives payment from the state based on the state's funding formula. The formula is the sole determinant as to what that amount would be and SGO contributions play no factor in the formula. The two other sources of revenue for public schools – local and federal funding – are likewise completely unaffected by SGO contributions.
2. There is no “deduction” from the state's per pupil funding to public districts for an SGO contribution. Whether no contributions are made or whether 10,000 contributions are made, the public districts receive the exact same per pupil funding from the state.
3. The SGO tax credit program is funded through an entirely separate line item in the state budget that is outside of the school funding line item.
4. The total cost of the SGO program represents less than 0.2% of the \$25 billion that K-12 education in Ohio will spend for the 2024-25 school year.

Donors to OCEN SGO can be assured that their contribution will have no negative effects on funding for their public school but will carry the tremendous benefit of making a high-quality and life-giving Christian school education available to a worthy student.