

Jon Peterson and Autism

SPECIAL NEEDS
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM





Pursuing the Jon Peterson/Autism Scholarship as Ohio Homeschoolers

As a homeschooler using the Jon Peterson or Autism Scholarship, it's essential to understand both Ohio's homeschooling regulations and the federal IDEA (Individuals w/ Disabilities Education Act).

You'll need to be well-versed in each, because you'll effectively be operating in two systems at once — one foot in the homeschooling world and one foot in the special-education world.

Step 1:

To officially homeschool in Ohio:
Send your exemption letter to
your district Superintendent by
certified mail so you have proof
they received it.

Follow the steps from **Ohio
Homeschooling Parents** to make
sure you're using forms that
follow Ohio law.

Don't use school-provided forms
— they often ask for more than
the law requires.

[Ohio Homeschool - Ohio Homeschooling Parents](#)



Ohio Homeschooling Parents

Connection, Encouragement, Information

Step 2:

Secure the required documentation — an **ETR** and **IEP** — from your district of residence. If your student already has a **current, unexpired IEP**, you can move directly to Step 3.

If not, email your district of residence and submit a **formal written request for a special-education evaluation**. In your request, clearly explain why you believe your student qualifies for special-education services and is therefore a candidate for scholarship funding.

SCHOOL SOLUTIONS can help with this step by providing a sample email to get you started.



Welcome to the World of Special Education

You can expect abundant acronyms and here are two important ones:

ETR= Evaluation Team Report

This is what you are requesting from the school district. A team of specialists will administer various evaluations to determine if your child qualifies for special education. If test scores show eligibility, an IEP will be written.

IEP= Individual Education Plan

This is a legal document outlining the student's abilities, and challenges. This is the school's plan of action to help.





MOST districts are aware of and work professionally along side parents and scholarship providers. However, sometimes there are ROADBLOCKS

To avoid Parental Roadblocks:

- Be prepared for connection with the school district.
- Be willing to provide necessary information.
- Be kindly persistent
- Be educated on Ohio Homeschool Law and IDEA

Be prepared for district Roadblocks:

- Unaware of the scholarship
- Unwilling to work with homeschoolers
- “Slow Rolling”



Step 3:

Research Jon Peterson Providers.



- All providers are listed and can be searched by county here:
<https://scholarship.ode.state.oh.us/Provider>
- After going to the above page, click on “Provider Search Page” to expand the search box, and select your county from the County drop-down list. You can also change the default number of results to show. Then click the Search button.
- Neighboring counties can also be searched, as most providers provide services in the surrounding counties of their main office.

Step 4: Contact a provider to determine if they have staff that is right for your child.

Each Jon Peterson/Autism provider is a privately-owned business.

Some providers focus on intensive therapies such as OT, PT, and SLP, while others focus on academic goals such as reading and math intervention (IS).

Some have “in-person” services, “in the home” services, and “online”.

Some providers allow funding to be split with other providers.

Some offer year-round tutoring, some do not.



Step 5: Submit
Required
Documents to
your chosen Jon
Peterson/Autism
Scholarship
Provider:

3 Documents are needed:

- An image of your student's birth certificate
- The completed 2 page JP/AU application, signed and dated
- Proof of Address
- Your chosen provider will use these three documents to create/renew your student's application within the scholarship student portal.

Step 6: Your student's scholarship Award

Funding is used toward services listed on your student's IEP/AEP

Jon Peterson Scholarship Award Amounts:

Category 1 Speech Only: \$10,045

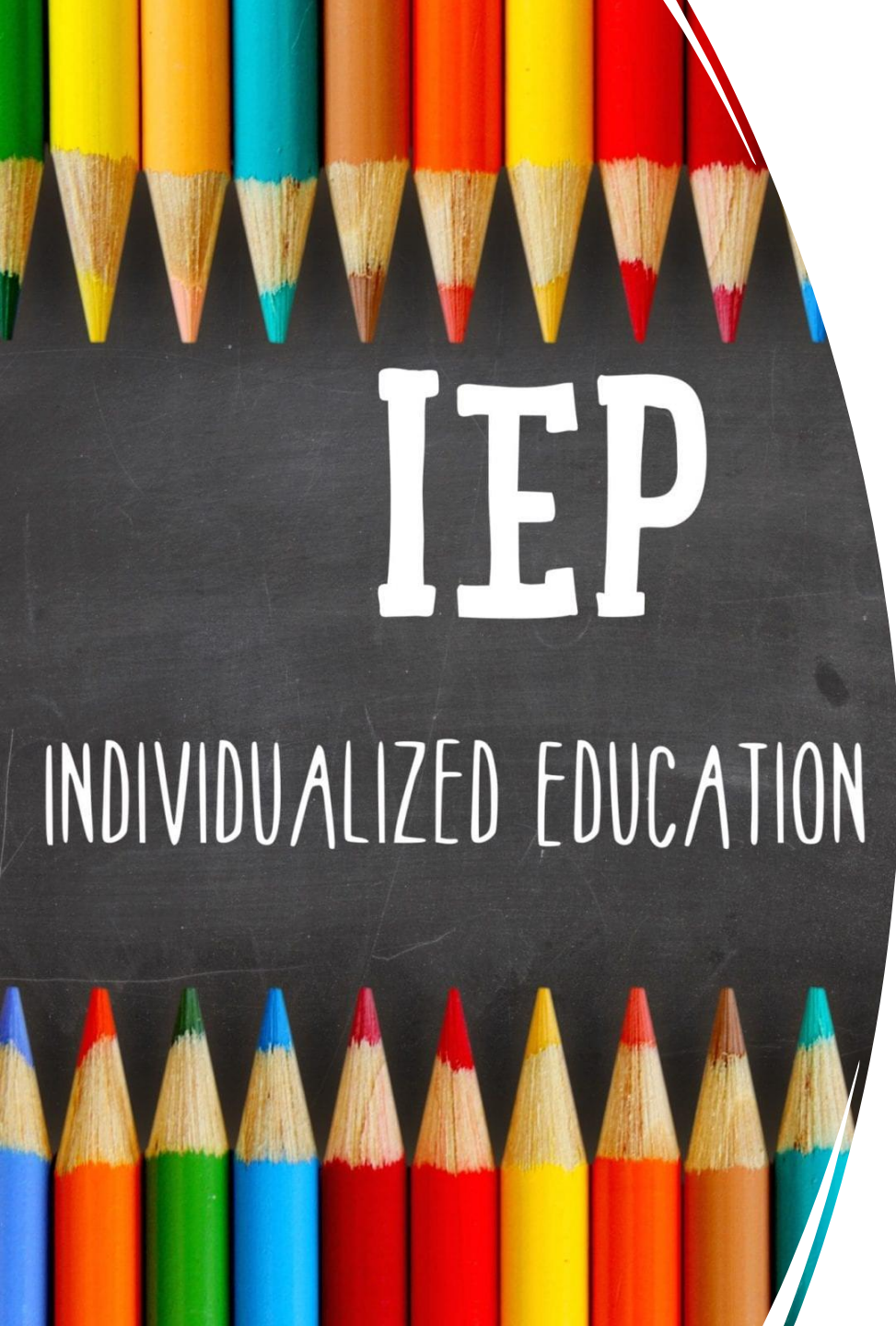
Category 2 Specific Learning Disability or OHI: \$13,069

Category 3: Hearing/Emotionally Disturbed: \$20, 069

Category 5: Ortho or Multihandicapped: \$29,750

Category 6: Autism/Traumatic Brain Injury: \$34,000

Autism Scholarship Award Amount: \$34,000

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a black chalkboard with the text "IEP" in large white letters and "INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION" in smaller white letters below it. The chalkboard is framed by a semi-circle of colorful pencils at the top and bottom. The pencils are in various colors including yellow, orange, red, blue, green, and brown.

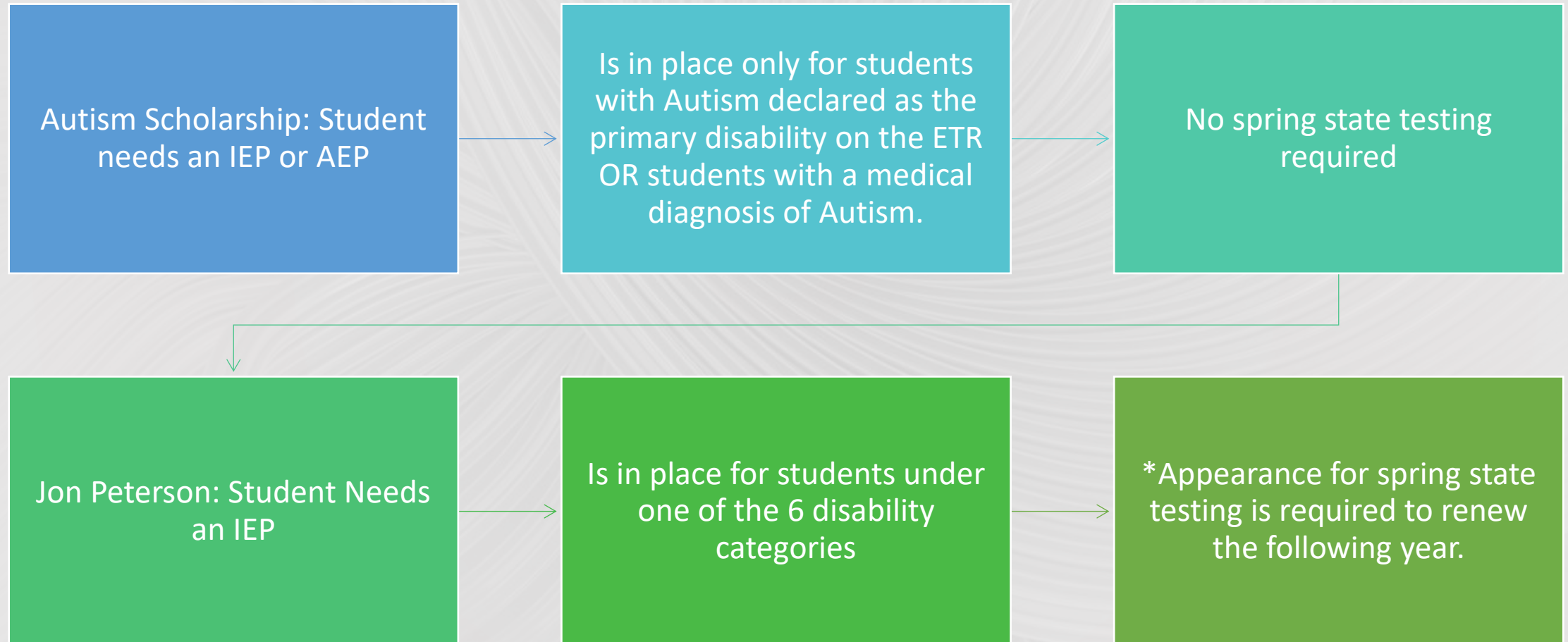
IEP

INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION

Step 7: Continuing the JP the following year:

- Your district of residence is responsible for updating the IEP document (annually) and ETR testing (every 3 years).
- If you have a JP/AU provider, it is common practice for the provider to provide a bridge to renew services.
- As the homeschool parent expect that the school will request that you provide information.
- The scholarship office has directed that providers do not attend IEP meetings, unless considered a parent guest, not as part of the IEP team.
- The IEP will be written as if the student were attending the public school.

Differences between Jon Peterson and Autism Scholarships



Autism Education Plan (AEP) The Golden Ticket



GOLDEN TICKET



ADMIT ONE

- If the district determines that the student does not qualify for Special Education services, but the student has a medical diagnosis, the district will develop an AEP.
- An AEP provides access to the Autism Scholarship and eliminates the need for annual IEP meetings and reevaluations every three years.

Homeschoolers and State testing (for Jon Peterson Students)

Your primary provider will conduct state testing.

The scores are irrelevant, and in no way affects your home education rights.

Appearance at state testing is a requirement to continue with the JP scholarship the fiscal year.

Students interact with the testing program on a device that has the Ohio State Testing program installed.



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