

## **APPLICATION STEP 1 CHEAT SHEET**

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## **Quick Tips**

- The application is mobile friendly. Find a location with the fastest internet possible.
- If using a computer, the application works best with the Google Chrome browser.
- Do NOT use a web translator. The application is translated in Spanish.
- The Eligibility Test, Page 1, will grant you your Official Date-Time Stamp. You MUST hit next, and continue to complete the full 5-page application in one sitting IN ORDER TO SAVE YOUR DATE TIME STAMP.

## Information needed to complete your Big Shoulders Fund Tax Credit Scholarship Application

(Complete this Cheat Sheet and bring with you when you fill out your online application.)

1 - Email address:
2 – County you live in:
Big Shoulders Fund serves the following counties: Cook, Boone, Carroll, DeKalb, DuPage, Joe Daviess, Kane,
Kendall, Lake, Lee, McHenry, Ogle, Stephenson, Winnebago
3 - Number of people in your household:
<ul> <li>Household members are "all people living together in a room or group of rooms in a housing unit."</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>This may include grandparents or other individuals living with you.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>This does not include individuals, such as grandparents, for whom you financially support, but do not live with you.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>This includes college students who may not live with you full time, but that you financially support.</li> </ul>
4 - Household Income:
<ul> <li>Include income of ALL adults (18 years and over)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Household income equals your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) found on line 11 of your 2021 or 2022 Federal 1040</li> <li>Tax Return. You must enter the exact dollar amount (without dollar signs, commas, or decimals)</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>If you do not file a Federal tax return, enter total income received: including all W-2s, 1099s, SNAP or SSI benefits, and any cash income received</li> </ul>
5 - School District that you live in:
<ul> <li>Find your Public School District at <a href="https://www.isbe.net/Pages/PublicSchoolDistrictLookup.aspx">https://www.isbe.net/Pages/PublicSchoolDistrictLookup.aspx</a></li> </ul>
<ul> <li>If you live in Chicago your school district is City of Chicago SD 299 (which will be the first option on the application dropdown menu)</li> </ul>
6 - Non-public School of Choice:
<ul> <li>To locate a school see our website: <a href="https://www.bigshouldersfundsgo.org/how-to-apply">https://www.bigshouldersfundsgo.org/how-to-apply</a></li> </ul>
6 – Children who received a Tax Credit Scholarship in 2022-23:
<ul> <li>Be sure to indicate if your child received a Tax Credit Scholarship for the 2022-23 school year.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Only children who received a Tax Credit Scholarship from another SGO (not Big Shoulders) must provide proof of</li> </ul>

award in Application Step 2. Contact your school to verify your status.