Assurances for Nonpublic Schools Participating in

BOOST Scholarship Program for the 2026-2027 School Year

I hereby agree, as the Principal or Head of School, that our school complies with the following terms and conditions:

1. **Non-discrimination**
    a. The school operates in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title 20, Subtitle 6 of the State Government Article, and not discrimination in student admissions, retention, or expulsion or otherwise discriminate against any student on the basis of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression.
    b. Nothing herein shall require any school or institution to adopt any rule, regulation, or policy that conflicts with its religious or moral teachings. However, all participating schools must agree that they will not discriminate in student admissions, retention, or expulsion, or otherwise discriminate based on race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression.
    c. If a school does not comply with these requirements, it shall reimburse the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) all scholarship funds received under the BOOST program for the 2026-2027 school year and may not charge the student tuition and fees instead. The only other legal remedy for violation of this provision is ineligibility for participation in the BOOST Program.

2. **Assessments**
    a. Any school that participated in the BOOST Scholarship Program during the 2025-2026 school year must report the scores of national, norm–referenced standardized assessments chosen from the list of assessments published by the U.S. Department of Education to qualify nonpublic National Blue Ribbon School administered during the 2025-2026 school year.
    b. Any schools new to the BOOST Scholarship Program during the 2026-2027 school year must administer national, norm–referenced standardized assessments chosen from the list of assessments published by the U.S. Department of Education to qualify nonpublic National Blue Ribbon School during the 2026-2027 school year.
    c. The school must administer the assessments to all students as follows:
        i. English Language Arts and Mathematics assessments each year for students in grades 3 through 8, and at least once for students in grades 9 through 12; and
        ii. Science assessment at least once for students in grades 3 through 5, at least once for students in grades 6 through 8, and at least once for students in grades 9 through 12.
    d. The assessment results must be maintained by the school and reported to MSDE.

3. **Student Enrollment**
    a. If an eligible student becomes ineligible (withdraws or is expelled from the school) during the course of the school year, the school will notify MSDE within 7 business days.
    b. If a student becomes ineligible (withdraws or is expelled from the school) during the course of the school year, the school will return the scholarship funds to MSDE on a pro-rata basis.
    c. To determine the pro-rata calculation, the school will divide the number of school days the student was enrolled (numerator) by the total number of school days in the school's academic year (denominator). The school's written tuition refund policy will be considered by MSDE in calculating the pro-rata amount owed if a student withdraws or is expelled before October 31.
    d. The school will provide to MSDE financial aid information for each BOOST student so that MSDE can determine whether BOOST aid plus non-BOOST aid exceeds tuition. If so, MSDE will reduce the BOOST award accordingly or require the school to reimburse MSDE.
    e. BOOST Scholarships are to supplement, not supplant, other financial aid that the student may receive for the 2026-2027 school year. Schools may not use BOOST funds as a substitute for other financial aid funds.

4. **Administration and Reporting**
    a. The school will maintain BOOST records for three years and will make all records related to the program available for review and audit by authorized representatives of MSDE.
    b. The school understands that it may be randomly selected to participate in an annual MSDE onsite technical review of schools participating in the BOOST program.
    c. The school agrees that it will provide MSDE with the following information, at such time and in such manner as prescribed by MSDE:
        i. The number of State certified and non-certified teachers in core subject areas;
        ii. Confirmation that the BOOST student is enrolled in the school for the 2026-2027 school year;
        iii. Indication of whether a BOOST student has a disability and is eligible for an Individualized Education Program (IEP), a 504 Plan, an Individual Services Plan, or a similar educational plan used by the nonpublic school to meet the unique needs of a student with a disability;
        iv. The amount and type of non-BOOST financial aid given to the BOOST student in 2026-2027 school year;
        v. Tuition and fee information (pg. 12) at the student level for the 2026-2027 school year in the format prescribed by MSDE;
        vi. The name of the assessments administered and the assessment results for the 2025-2026 school year required in accordance with Section 2(a);
        vii. The number of students with BOOST scholarships at your school during the 2025-2026 school year who withdrew or were expelled, the reason(s) for which they withdrew or were expelled, and the length of time the students were enrolled before withdrawing or being expelled.

By receiving funds under this program, I hereby agree, as the official representative of the school, that our school complies with the above terms and conditions:

Name of Nonpublic School: _____

Advance link number: _____

Name of Principal or Head of School: _____

Title of Principal or Head of School: _____

Email of Principal or Head of School: _____

Signature of Principal or Head of School: _____

Date: _____