



Checklist for Key SGO Creation and Compliance Activities:

A. Formation (Immediate)

- ✓ Choose name and check availability with the KY Secretary of State
- ✓ Recruit 3+ independent board members
- ✓ File Articles of Incorporation
- ✓ Appoint registered agent
- ✓ Obtain EIN

B. IRS Approval

- ✓ File Form 1023
- ✓ Include scholarship program details
- ✓ Demonstrate public charity status from the KY Office of Attorney General

C. Kentucky State Compliance

- ✓ Register for charitable solicitation BEFORE fundraising with the KY Office of Attorney General
- ✓ Apply for KY tax exemption with the KY Dept. of Revenue
- ✓ File annual report (\$15/year) with the KY Secretary of State

D. OBBBA (SGO-Specific Requirements)

- ✓ Be a 501(c)(3) public charity (not private foundation)
- ✓ Spend ≥90% on scholarships
- ✓ Serve ≥10 students across multiple schools
- ✓ No earmarking donations
- ✓ Verify student income eligibility (≤300% median)
- ✓ Maintain fund segregation (no co-mingling)
- ✓ Ensure no insider benefit (board members, donors)

E. Program Launch (2027 readiness)

- ✓ Get listed as an approved SGO by the state
- ✓ Set up donor tracking for tax credit reporting
- ✓ Build scholarship application + review system

F. Ongoing Compliance

- ✓ File IRS Form 990 annually
- ✓ Maintain documentation for all scholarships
- ✓ Conduct annual financial review
- ✓ Update policies as federal/state guidance evolves