Bolsa Família, or Scholarship Program

The Bolsa Família program is a Brazilian social welfare program launched in 2003. It aims to reduce poverty and inequality by providing financial aid to low-income families. The program offers direct cash transfers to eligible families, helping them meet basic needs such as food, healthcare, and education.

* **Eligibility Criteria:** To qualify, families must fall below a certain income threshold. The program prioritizes those in extreme poverty ($140 [BRL](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazilian_real) (poverty line, ~US$28)).
* **Conditions:** To receive the benefits families must meet certain conditions, including ensuring that their children attend school regularly, are vaccinated, and get regular health check-ups.
* **Beneficiaries:** The program targets low-income families, with a focus on reducing child poverty and improving access to essential services.

Bolsa Família has been credited with significantly reducing poverty rates and improving educational and health outcomes for children in Brazil. As of 2020, the program covered 13.8 million families and paid an average of $34 per month, in a country where the minimum wage is $190 per month.

**Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolsa\_Fam%C3%ADlia**