

Pre-Kindergarten (Preschool) Scholarship Program

Application Process & Eligibility Criteria



Lifesteps is pleased to offer a **Pre-Kindergarten (Preschool) Scholarship Program** to assist families in their commitment to providing a high-quality, preschool education for their child.

Scholarships of up to 100% of a child's preschool tuition (including child care with preschool), may be awarded for eligible students who are 3 to 6 years old, enrolled in/attend preschool at a Lifesteps' Early Education Center, and are a member of a household with an annual income that does not exceed maximum income guidelines.

- **Preschoolers enrolled in Lifesteps' Summer Discovery program may also be eligible (full 20 day session only).**
- All other sources of supplemental child care or preschool funding (i.e.: Early Learning Resource Center (Child Care Subsidy), TANF (Temporary Aid to Needy Families), AmeriCorps, Pre-K Counts, Early Intervention, etc.) must be fully disclosed to determine and maintain eligibility.
- Scholarship awards will be based on a sliding income scale, availability of funds, slots available, and number of eligible applicants.
- Scholarships will be applied to the child's account using a prorated weekly or monthly rate. Families are responsible for the remaining balance of their child's tuition/fees per Lifesteps' policies and as detailed within the fee agreement. No person(s) shall receive any direct cash benefit from any scholarship award(s).

Household Income Guidelines Effective July 1, 2025	
Number of Children Living in Household	
1	\$132,123
2	\$151,898
3	\$171,673
4	\$191,448
5	\$211,223
6	\$230,998

* If preschooler is enrolled in Early Intervention services: multiply listed guideline X 1.5. (1 child = \$198,185)

Applications will be accepted year-round. **To receive priority, applications requesting a scholarship for the Summer Discovery Program or full program year must be received by June 1st.** Requests for the spring preschool term (January- June) will be reviewed in November (Deadline: November 1st) Applications for the current program year will also be reviewed in January (Deadline: January 1st) and March (Deadline: March 1st).

All applications must be fully completed, signed, and submitted on time and include the Application Form and copies of the most recent Federal Income Tax Return(s) for ALL wage-earning adults in the home. (If you do not file an IRS Form 1040 and receive only non-taxable income, please submit documentation/verification of your non-taxable income.)

Income Eligibility Information:

In calculating household income for the purpose of determining student eligibility, you must include ALL monies and property received of whatever nature and from whatever source, except for the following:

- a) Periodic payments for sickness and disability other than regular wages received during a period of sickness or disability
 - b) Disability, retirement or other payments arising under workers' compensation acts, occupational disease acts and similar legislation by any government
 - c) Payments recognized as old age or retirement benefits to persons retired from service after reaching a specific age or after a stated period of employment
 - d) Payments known as public assistance or unemployment compensation payments by a governmental agency
 - e) Payments to reimburse actual expenses
 - f) Payments made by employers or labor unions for programs covering hospitalization, sickness, disability or death, supplemental unemployment benefits, strike benefits, social security and retirement
- Compensation received by United States servicemen serving in a combat zone

Scholarship Applications and additional guidelines are available at www.lifesteps.net and at the reception desk of Lifesteps' Early Education Centers. For additional information, please contact Lifesteps' Resource Development Specialist, Julie Thumma, by calling (724) 283-1010 x310 or email jthumma@lifesteps.net.