TO: Preschool Parent

FROM: Preschool Enrichment Project

DATE: February 3, 2020

4Rkids Early Childhood Iowa offers preschool scholarships to Adair, Dallas, Madison and Warren County children whose families meet income guidelines. Our program is offered through funding provided by the State of Iowa. The purpose of this funding is to increase school readiness of our children by increasing access to quality preschool programs.

2020/2021 Preschool Tuition Assistance/Scholarship Guidelines

- Children must reside in the service area.
- Children must have turned three by September 15, 2020 to be eligible.
- 4 year olds must enroll in at least ten hours of programming per week at a cooperating preschool which meets quality standards.
- Eligibility is based on family size and gross annual income. A sliding scale is used to determine the amount of the award. The maximum award, based on ten hours of programming, will not exceed 90% of the tuition or $175 per month. The family is responsible for the difference in tuition and for any enrollment or late fees, or withdrawing without paying fees owed to the program. **Program reimbursement is for a half-day rate.**
- The award will remain in place until the end of the school year as long as the child's attendance is 90% or above. The preschool provider will notify you if your child falls below 90%. (On-going attendance problems may result in loss of the scholarship.)
- Children eligible to enroll in a state and/or federally funded program (Head Start, Shared Visions) must participate in that program before being able to apply for this scholarship. Statewide Voluntary Preschool will be encouraged to be filled before providing preschool tuition assistance. **If other assistance is available through a preschool, agency, or business, the lowest tuition rate will be utilized.**
  - If you are applying for more than one child in your family, a separate application must be submitted for each child.
  - If the child switches preschools, the funds will follow the child as long as the preschool meets the scholarship program guidelines.
  - Notify preschool enrichment project when there is a change in income, contact information.
- Responsibility for registration fees, co-pays and late fees.

Final decisions rest ultimately with the 4Rkids Early Childhood Iowa Board. Payments will be made directly to the preschool on behalf of the family. Funding is contingent upon state award and contract. **Applications will be processed after July 1, 2020, pending state funding and local contract award.** Families will be notified of the award at that time. If you have questions concerning the 4Rkids Preschool Scholarship program please contact:

Val Cameron – Cell: (515) 735-5720 – Office: (515) 993-4281

... and justice for all

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Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University of Science and Technology, and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating.
Serving families in Adair, Dallas, Madison and Warren County

Preschool Tuition Assistance Application
Funds will be awarded on a first-come first-served basis
Applications will be processed after July 1, 2020 pending state funding and local contract award

Child’s Name: ___________________________ Child’s Date of Birth: ___/___/____

Child’s Gender: □ Male □ Female Class: □ 3 yr. old □ 4 yr. old □ 5 yr. old □ Are you Hispanic/Latino?

Child’s Race: (Please check all that apply) □ African American □ Native American or Alaskan Native
□ Asian □ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander □ Other or Unknown □ White

Physical Address: ___________________________ City: ___________________________ Zip Code: __________

Head of Household: ___________________________ □ Parent □ Foster Parent □ Guardian

Head of Household Marital Status:
□ Single □ Married □ Separated □ Divorced □ Widowed □ Partnered

Head of Household Ethnicity: (Please check all that apply)
□ Are you Hispanic/Latino?

Head of Household Race: □ African American □ Native American or Alaskan Native
□ Asian □ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander □ Other or Unknown □ White

Head of Household Educational Level (Please check highest level)
□ Middle school or lower □ Some High School □ High School Diploma/ HiSET □ Some college □ Trade/Vocational Training □ 2-year college degree (Associate) □ 4-Year College Degree (Bachelor’s) □ Master’s Degree or higher

Second Parent Educational Level (Please check highest level)
□ Middle school or lower □ Some High School □ High School Diploma/HiSET □ Some college □ Trade/Vocational Training □ 2-year college degree (Associate) □ 4-Year College Degree (Bachelor’s) □ Master’s Degree or higher

Mailing Address (if different than above) ___________________________ City ______________________ Zip Code __________

County: □ Adair □ Dallas □ Madison □ Warren

Method of Communication Email (please print):

Has your child attended preschool in the past? □ Yes □ No If yes, which Preschool? ___________________________

Home Phone: ___________ Cell Phone: ___________ Are you expecting? □ Due Date ___________ Speak English □

2019 adjusted gross income (line 8b on 1040) $ ___________

Number in household: Adults: ______ Dependent Children: ______ Ages: ________ Total living at above address: ________

CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION
To verify your eligibility for the tuition assistance program we ask that you authorize the preschool tuition scholarship

I, ___________________________, authorize the preschool tuition scholarship committee to contact organizations to verify that we qualified for any assistance programs. There may be an exchange of information between the 4Rkids Early Childhood Iowa Board and its funded programs, the applicable preschool, and the referral source to accommodate the processing of this application for your family. This may contain copies of IEP, social and family history; school records and educational assessments.

Signature ___________________________ Date ___________

For Office Use Only: Date Received ___________
Guidelines:
The scholarships are for families living in Adair, Dallas, Madison, and Warren County who are not eligible for tuition scholarships through other programs. Early Childhood Iowa scholarships are not to replace other funding. Applications will be accepted until budgeted funds are expended.

- Preschools must meet the guidelines set by the 4Rkid’s Early Childhood Iowa Board in order to receive funds.
- Parents are expected to pay a portion of the child’s tuition based on a sliding fee scale. Tuition scholarships are confidential between the preschool enrichment coordinator, the family, and the preschool. Parents are responsible for co-payment directly to the program. If the co-payment is not paid, the non-payment preschool policy will be enforced.
- The scholarship application must be received by ISU Extension and Outreach – Dallas County by the 15th of the month for tuition to be considered for that month of service.
- The family and the preschool will be notified of the outcome of the application.
- Children in foster care are automatically eligible for tuition assistance at 90%. An application must be submitted; however, no income verification is required.
- Scholarships do not pay for wrap-around childcare, meals or transportation.

Sliding Fee Scale - Income Eligibility Guidelines:*  

* Guidelines are based on the 2020 Poverty Guidelines that were updated in January 22 2020.
Additional Person $4,480

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<th>Family Size</th>
<th>90% Tuition Scholarship</th>
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</table>

Programs in which your family participates (check all that apply):

☐ Housing Assistance ☐ Energy Assistance ☐ WIC
☐ FIP ☐ Food Assistance ☐ Disability
☐ Child Care Assistance ☐ Maternal Child Health Program ☐ Social Security
☐ Unemployment ☐ Parents as Teachers ☐ New Parent Program (LSI)

Other: Please specify_________

Which describes your child’s health coverage (check one)?

☐ Private ☐ Hawk-I ☐ Medicaid Amerigroup ☐ Medicaid Iowa Total Care ☐ No Insurance

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A copy of Page 1 of your 2019 Federal Income Tax form must be provided to verify this income figure. If income is not reflective of your current financial situation, a second priority of income verification can be submitted (examples: copies of prior month’s unemployment benefits, FIP Notice of Decision benefit, and/or most recent month’s pay stubs).

Additional Considerations:

Does your 2019 tax return provide an accurate picture of your current financial situation? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If no, please explain special circumstances that make it difficult to pay tuition:

This information will be shared with 4Rkids Board who will make the final decision on eligibility.

Which preschool does your child attend or plan to attend if not currently enrolled?

First Choice:
Preschool name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
Classroom enrolled (circle) 3 year 4 year 5 year
Monthly Tuition: $ __________ Days and hours attending: __________________________
I have contacted this preschool and they have an opening for my child. ☐ Yes ☐ No

Second Choice:
Preschool name: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
Classroom enrolled (circle) 3 year 4 year 5 year
Monthly Tuition: $ __________ Days and hours attending: __________________________

I understand that any amount of tuition scholarship monies received will go directly to the preschool my child is attending. The director will be responsible to submit a monthly statement and will track my child’s attendance to remain eligible for tuition assistance. It is expected that my child’s preschool attendance will be 90%. If attendance does not meet 90% and absences are unexcused (examples of excused absences: child illness, family crisis), the preschool program director will talk with me. On-going attendance problems may result in the loss of my preschool tuition scholarship. If the co-payment is not paid, the nonpayment preschool policy will be enforced.

Parent Signature ___________________________ Date __________

Send completed application and a copy of your 2019 Federal Income Tax Return (page 1 only) to:

Preschool Enrichment
ISU Extension and Outreach – Dallas County
28059 Fairground Road, Adel IA 50003

Office: 515-993-4281 Fax: 515-993-1027 Email: valc@iastate.edu
http://www.extension.iastate.edu/warren/

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