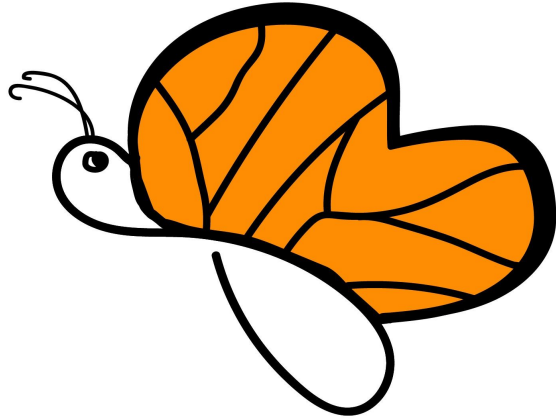




Applying for Childcare Assistance

Introduction



Echoing our mission statement, Monarch Montessori School is passionate about making our program available to families of all incomes and backgrounds.

This presentation goes through the different resources available to parents and how they can apply to receive this assistance for the 2021/2022 school year.

What assistance is available to families for early childhood education?

- Pathway 1 Early Learning Scholarships
 - Administered by Think Small
 - Scholarships can be used at Parent Aware rated child care providers
 - Monarch Montessori School is a 4 star rated provider
 - Due to the high demand, Think Small cannot award every family a scholarship, but we encourage everyone to apply

General Eligibility Requirements

- Child must be age 3 or 4 years old
- Family must reside in Hennepin County or Ramsey County
- Scholarship dollars must be used at a participating Parent Aware child care center
 - Monarch Montessori School is a 4 star rated Parent Aware center
 - You can search for Parent Aware child care providers on Parent Aware's [website](#)

Parent
Aware

Parent Aware Rating Scholarship Amounts

Scholarship amounts are based on the Parent Aware rating level of the program you choose.

Parent Aware Program Rating Level	Scholarship Amount**
Parent Aware Four-Star Rating	Up to \$7,500 per child
Parent Aware Three-Star Rating	Up to \$5,000 per child
Parent Aware One- or Two-Star Rating*	Up to \$4,000 per child
Currently in a Full-Rating Pathway Cohort*	Up to \$3,000 per child

*Starting July 1, 2024, Early Learning Scholarships – Pathway I can only be used at programs with a Three- or Four-Star Rating.

**Starting July 1, 2020, children in a priority status will be eligible for a higher cap. Consult with the Area Administrator once awarded.

Financial Eligibility Requirements

Income

Families have an annual gross income of no more than 185% of Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Family Size	Gross Income	Family Size	Gross Income
2	\$31,894	6	\$65,046
3	\$40,182	7	\$73,344
4	\$48,470	8	\$80,346
5	\$56,758	9**	\$81,662

**For family units of more than nine members, add \$8,288 for each additional member.

If your family currently participates in one of these programs:

MFP, CCAP, Free and Reduced Lunch (FRLP), CACFP, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, SNAP, Head Start, Foster Care

Application Process

Download a copy of the Pathway 1 Early Learning Scholarship Application from the Think Small [website](#)

- You can complete the application electronically or with pen and paper
- Applications are accepted year-round
- Applications and instructions are available in:
 - [English](#)
 - [Hmong](#)
 - [Somali](#)
 - [Spanish](#)

Application Process Cont.

If you are unable to download or print off an application:

- Fill out the request form on the Think Small website
 - [Request Form](#)
 - You can request the form arrive to you via U.S. mail, email, or DocuSign (online application)

Application Process Cont.

After downloading or printing your application:

- complete all areas of the form
 - Fields with an asterisk (*) MUST be completed
- Include all financial information to verify your family's income
- Read the agreement and comply with the requirements and Tennessee Warning
- Sign and date application form in ink or electronic signature

Financial Information Needed

There are two ways to verify your income:

1. Proof of participation in a publicly funded program
2. Proof of income
 - a. If none of the adult members of your household have any income, the Household Declaration of No Income form on Page 11 must be completed by one adult and submitted with your application.

Page 5 of the application lists the supplemental financial documentation needed to submit your application.

Submitting Your Application

Before Submission:

- Review application checklist
- Staple supporting and financial documents to the back of application (paper application).

Where to submit:

- U.S. Mail:
 - Think Small
Attn: Early Learning Scholarship
10 Yorkton Court
Saint Paul, MN 55117
- Fax: (651) 641-6604
- Email: ApplyELS@thinksmall.org

Hearing Back About Your Application

The Area Administrator will send you a letter to let you know the status of your child's or children's Early Learning Scholarship – Pathway I. If you have questions, contact the Area Administrator

Helpful Resources

Think Small Office:

- Phone: (651) 641-6604
- Email: scholarships@thinksmall.org
- Address: Think Small/Scholarships, 10 Yorkton Ct, Saint Paul, MN 55117

For scholarship information available in other languages, call 651-665-0150 or 1-866-807-6021

- Yog nyob hauv ob lub nroog ntxaib:(651) 665-0150
- En el área metropolitana, llame al: (651) 665-0150
- Magaalada gudahed wac: (651) 665-0150

Thank you!



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