

	Box is for Administrator Use Only:
Pro	ogram Name:
Aw	ard Start Date:
Aw	ard Amount:
Ар	plication Fiscal Year:
No	tes:
I	

# Early Learning Scholarship - Pathway I Application

Complete this form in blue/black ink or electronically. Information with an asterisk (\*) is required to be filled out by the parent/guardian. If any required questions are left blank, the parent/guardian will need to correct the application.

### **Child Information**

Provide information for all children you want considered for a scholarship. Use separate applications for children living at different addresses. Siblings are children who share one or both parents through blood, marriage or adoption, including siblings as defined by the children's tribal code or custom.

Note: Children age 5 or older on September 1 of the current fiscal year are not eligible to receive a scholarship.

Child One					
*Child's Legal Name:					
First			Middle		Last
*Child's Date of Birth:					
	MM/D	D/YYYY			
*Child's Gender (check one):	Male	Female			
Is this child in Foster Care?:	Yes	No			
Ethnicity (check one):	Hispanic/	<sup>/</sup> Latino	Not Hispanic,	/Latino	
Race (check all that apply):	Americar	n Indian or Ala	skan Native	Asian	Black or African American
	Pacific Isl	ander or Nati	ve Hawaiian	White	
Has this child received an Early	/ Childhood	Screening?	Yes	No	
If yes: Location:					Date:
Name the early childhood pro	gram where	you plan to u	se the scholarsh	nip, if awarde	d. <i>Write "unknown" if no progran</i>
has been selected yet				Phone	2:
Is this child currently a	ttending th	is program?	Yes	No	
Is a sibling of this child	already att	ending this pr	ogram with an a	active scholar	ship? Yes No
If yes child(ren)	's first and I	act namec			

If you are only applying for one child, skip this page. If you are applying for more than three children, photocopy this page and attach the additional sheet(s) to your application.

### **Child Two**

*Child's Legal Name:							
First			Middle		Last		
*Child's Date of Birth:	/ =						
		DD/YYYY					
*Child's Gender ( <i>check one</i> ):	Male	Female					
Is this child in Foster Care?:	Yes	No					
Ethnicity (check one):	Hispanic	/Latino	Not Hispanio	:/Latino			
Race (check all that apply):		n Indian or Ala lander or Nati		Asian White	Black	cor Africa	n American
Has this child received an Early  If yes: Location:		•	Yes	No		_ Date:_	
Name the early childhood prog	-	•		•			n" if no program
Is this child currently a	ttending th	nis program?	Yes	No			
Is a sibling of this child	already at	tending this pr	ogram with an	active scholar	ship?	Yes	No
If yes, child(ren)	s first and	last names:			-		
Child Three							
*Child's Legal Name:			Middle		Last		
*Child's Date of Birth:							
		DD/YYYY					
*Child's Gender ( <i>check one</i> ):	Male	Female					
Is this child in Foster Care?:	Yes	No					
Ethnicity (check one):	Hispanic	/Latino	Not Hispanio	c/Latino			
Race ( <i>check all that apply</i> ):		n Indian or Ala lander or Nati		Asian White	Black	cor Africa	nn American
Has this child received an Early  If yes: Location:		_	Yes	No		Date:	
,, , ee. 2000.io							
Name the early childhood prog has been selected yet.		, ,		• •			n" if no program
Is this child currently a	ttending th	nis program?	Yes	No			
Is a sibling of this child	already at	tending this pr	ogram with an	active scholar	ship?	Yes	No
If yes, child(ren)	s first and	last names:					

# **Parent/Legal Guardian Information**

The parent or legal guardian of the children included in this application must complete this section.

Note: If any child is in foster care, please skip this section and complete the "Foster Care Information" section on the next page.

'Parent/Guardian's Leg	al Name:					
	First		Middle		Last	
*Resident Address:				Apt/Unit #:		
*City:		*State:		*ZIP:	County:	
Relationship to child:		Legal Guardian (ap	•	•		
Date of Birth (*required	only if parent	is under 21, MM/DD/	YYYY): _			
Phone Number:		Email Ac	dress: _			
Do you consent to recei	ve text messa	ges from your Area Ad	lministra	ator? <i>Msg/dd</i>	ata rates may apply.      Yes	s No
Mailing Address ( <i>If diffe</i>	rent from resi	dent address):				
City:		State:		ZIP:	County:	
Additional Contact :						
there is another contact such that you want to include on y	ch as another par	list them here. If there are	two parer	nt/legal guardiar	worker, program staff, interpret ns, the second parent/legal guar adult to discuss the information	dian should
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If you are not applying for a child in protective services and/or foster care, skip this page.

# For a Child in Protective Services

If your child is not receiving child prof	ective services, leave	this section blar	nk.
Referring Agency:		Date:_	
Referring Staff Name:		Title: _	
Phone Number:	Email <i>A</i>	Address:	
Foster Care Information			
This section must be completed by t	he foster care county	or tribal social s	service agency worker.
	nis form. The county o	or tribal social se	tact for the Area Administrator if there is a rvice agency worker should notify the Area
At the end of the application, the cou	nty or tribal social se	rvice agency wor	ker should sign as the parent/guardian.
County or Tribal Social Service	Agency Information	on	
County or Tribal Social Service Agency	y:		
County or Tribal Social Service Agency	y Address:		
Worker Name:			
Phone Number:	Emai	l Address:	
Residence of Child			
Current Resident Address:			Apt/Unit #:
City:	State:	ZIP:	County:
Resident School District of the child b	pased on the address	of the home from	m which the child was removed:
Foster Care Parent Contact			
Foster Parent's Name:			
First	Middle	e	Last
Phone Number	F	mail Address	

# **Family Information**

### Children in Household\*

List all Household Members who are **infants**, **children**, **and students up to and including grade 12**, including the children listed in this application. See page 7 for the definition of household. Do not list adults over grade 12 in this table. If more spaces are required for additional names, attach another sheet of paper.

Child's First Nam List all children in ho applicant children.		nolarship	Middle Initial	Child's Last Nam	e		Child's Age
_							
What language do	-	-					
English	Hmong	Somali	Spanish	Vietnamese	Other:		
Do you need an ir	nterpreter?	Yes	No				
Are any members	of your househo	old affiliated v	with one of th	e eleven federally ı	ecognized tribes in	n Minnesota? /j	f yes, check all
that apply. If no, l	eave blank.						
Bois Forte Band	of Chippewa	Fond Du Lac I	Band of Lake S	uperior Chippewa	<b>Grand Portage</b>	Band of Lake Sเ	perior Chippew
Leech Lake Band	l of Ojibwe	Lower Sioux I	ndian Commu	nity	Mille Lacs Band	l of Ojibwe	
Prairie Island Inc	lian Community	Red	Lake Nation		Shakopee Mde	wakanton Sioux	( Community
Upper Sioux Cor	nmunity	Whi	te Earth Natio	n			
_ Other:							
economic hardshi	-	sing? Check ar	y that apply.	ions at any point in		_	
Shelter		Moving from	place to place	Doubling	up temporarily wit	h other family o	or friends
Hotel, motel, tra	iller, or campgro	und ( <i>due to lo</i>	ss of housing,	economic hardship,	or similar reason)		
Car, outside, or	public space						
What is the highe	st level of educa	tion you have	completed?	Check one.			
Less than high so	chool I	High school or	GED S	Some college or no	degree	College deg	ree
What is your curr	ent employment	: status? Chec	k one.				
Employed full-ti	me (25 hours/we	ek or more)	E	Employed part-time	(less than 25 hour	s/week)	
Unemployed, se	eking employme	nt	l	Jnemployed, not se	eking employment	t	
How did you hear	about Early Lea	rning Scholars	ships? Check a	ll that apply.			
My program		Friend/Fa	amily		Another family in	my program	
Area Administra	tor	Commun	ity partner (i.e	e., library)	Social media (Fac	ebook, Twitter)	
Online research		Parent A	ware/Child Ca	re Aware	Tribal, County, or	State service p	rovider
El / l		Othern					

Flyer/advertisement

## **Proof of Income Eligibility**

Families must demonstrate their income eligibility.

### **Option 1: Participation in Public Programs**

- If you respond **yes** to one or more of questions 1 through 8, **attach documentation for one of your public programs** to your application.
- Acceptable proof of participation includes: official notice on program letterhead; application with program approval/signature (i.e., approved CACFP or FRPM application); authorization form from the public program; current bill or receipt from the program (i.e., MEC<sup>2</sup> bill from CCAP); or screenshot from a program's official system of record (i.e., free or reduced-priced meals status in Infinite Campus). Proof of participation must have the name of the parent/guardian and/or child(ren), must be dated, and must be valid at the time of the award.
- Unacceptable proof includes: a waitlist letter, an unapproved application, documentation without a date, and/or expired documentation.

Public Program Attach proof from one program listed below.	Select Ye	s or No
<b>1.</b> Does your child or a sibling participate the <b>Free and Reduced-Price Meals Program (FRPM)</b> ? If yes, attach FRPM documentation such as an authorization letter, an approved application with program signature, or documentation from your program's official system of record.	Yes	No
2. Do you currently participate in the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)?  If yes, attach CCAP documentation such as a Notice of Decision letter.	Yes	No
<b>3.</b> Is your child currently enrolled in a <b>Head Start program</b> ?  If yes, attach documentation of participation in Head Start such as an acceptance/authorization letter from the Head Start agency or approved enrollment form with program signature.	Yes	No
<b>4.</b> Is your child currently in <b>Foster Care</b> ?  If yes, the foster care county or tribal social service agency worker must submit the application and complete the "Foster Care Information" section of the application. No documentation is needed.	Yes	No
<b>5.</b> Do you currently participate in the <b>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)?</b> If yes, attach SNAP documentation such as a letter or status statement from your county, or other county documentation.  A copy of your EBT card is not acceptable documentation.	Yes	No
6. Do you currently participate in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)?  If yes, attach MFIP documentation such as a letter or status statement from your county, or other county documentation.	Yes	No
7. Do you currently participate in the Child Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)?  If yes, attach CACFP documentation that shows your child's participation such as an authorization letter or an approved application with program signature. Note: Families are not income-eligible for scholarships based solely on CACFP provider area eligibility. Families must be eligible based on their own income.	Yes	No
8. Do you currently participate in a Food Distribution Program on an Indian Reservation?  If yes, attach Food Distribution Program documentation such as an authorization letter or a status statement.	Yes	No

If you responded yes to one or more of questions 1 through 8, skip pages 7 and 8

If you responded **no** to questions 1 through 8, you will need to use **Option 2** to demonstrate your income. Complete the *Adults in the Household and their Income* table on the following page and submit valid income documentation for review of eligibility.

**Complete this page** and submit valid income documentation if you do **not** currently participate in an Option 1 public program. **Skip this page** if you currently participate in and can provide documentation for one of the Option 1 public programs listed on Page 6.

# **Option 2: Household Income Eligibility**

#### Step 1: Complete the "Adults in the Household and their Income" Table.

- List adult household members (including yourself) in the table.
- For the purpose of this program, the members of your household are "Anyone who is living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related."
  - o Household members includes all people living in the household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends), who share income and expenses. Households do not include other people who are economically independent, such as a roommate.
  - o Include any college students temporarily away from home.
  - o Include all adults, even if they do not have an income.
- If they do receive income, report the total gross income only. Enter income(s) in whole dollars.
- If they do not receive income from any source, check the "No Income" box.

#### Step 2: Attach proof of income for each adult listed. Include proof for all types of income earned.

- Acceptable proof includes the previous year's W-2 form, most recent (consecutive) 30 days of pay stubs for each income earner, financial aid statement, or a statement from an employer on company letterhead.
  - o Families should submit the most current documentation available.
  - o Pay stubs must be dated within six months of the award.
  - If other types of documentation are not available, the previous year's income tax filing documents may be used. The tax documents must be a copy of the signed version submitted to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) or include the confirmation notice if submitted electronically.
- If the household has no income, one of the adults in the household must complete the Household Declaration of No Income on Page 8.

#### Sources of Income for Adults

#### **Gross Pay from Work**

- Salary, wages, cash bonuses (before deductions or taxes)
- If you are in the U.S. Military:
  - a. Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances)
  - b. Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing

#### Self-Employed or a Farmer

• Net income from self-employment (farm or business)

#### Child Support, Alimony

• Child support payments, Alimony payments

#### **All Other Incomes**

- Other Cash Assistance from State or local government (do not include any Option 1 programs listed on Page 6)
- Unemployment benefits
- Worker's compensation
- Veteran's benefits
- Strike benefits
- Social Security, disability benefits
- Regular income from trusts or estates
- Annuities, Investment income, Rental income
- Regular cash payments from outside household

#### Adults in the Household and their Income

Names of All Adult Household Members (First and Last)	<b>Gross Pay from Work</b> Do not write in an hourly wage.		Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer?		Child Support, Alimony				All Other Incomes					No Income					
List all <b>adult</b> household members (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children who are temporarily away at school or in college.	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Report income before deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents). (\$)	Monthly	Yearly	Farm or Self- Employment net income. Do not duplicate elsewhere.) (\$)	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Payments received (\$)	Weekly	Bi-Weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Pension, retirement, disability, unemployme nt, Veterans benefits, etc. (\$)	Check if this adult has no income.
	О	О	О	О		О	О		О	О	О	О		О	О	О	О		О
	О	О	О	О		О	О		О	О	О	О		О	О	О	О		О
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	О	О	О	О		О	О		О	О	О	О		О	О	О	О		О
	О	О	О	О		О	О		О	О	О	О		О	О	О	О		О

Complete this page if no adult members of your household have income.

Skip this page if you are using an Option 1 program or if one or more adults in your household have an income.

- Households with no income still need to list all adults in the household on Page 7.
- Do not complete this page if income for one or more adults is listed on Page 7.

Signature: Date:

• Do not complete this page if you answered "yes" to questions 1-8 on Page 6 and are submitting proof of participation in a public program.

### **Household Declaration of No Income**

This statement below serves as your declaration of no household income for Option 2. This form must be completed by

the same parent or legal guardian who signs the Early Learning Scholarships – Pathway I Application.

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, declare that we as a household currently

Print full legal name

do not have income on this day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Today's Date: MM/DD/YYYY

Signature Date: MM/DD/YYYY

## **Agreement to Comply with Requirements**

By signing this application, you are confirming that you have read, understand and agree to the Early Learning Scholarships Program requirements and the items listed below.

- The information on this application is true, and all household members' incomes are reported. If I purposely give false information, my child may lose the scholarship and I may need to reimburse the state for funds paid.
- My 3- to 5-year-old must complete an Early Childhood Screening within 90 calendar days of attending a selected program using a scholarship. If my child receives a scholarship between age 0 and 2, they must complete the screening within 90 days of their third birthday.
- My child will remain eligible to receive a scholarship through August 31 of the year he/she is age-eligible for kindergarten, or 5 years old on September 1, as long as state funding is available.
- I will notify the Area Administrator when my child stops attending the program where we are using a scholarship.
- I will notify the Area Administrator if I move or my contact information changes.
- Within 10 months of being awarded an Early Learning Scholarship, my awarded child(ren) must be enrolled in a program participating in Parent Aware or the scholarship will be cancelled. If needed, the Area Administrator will help direct me to Child Care Aware to help me find programs in my area. The scholarship may be cancelled earlier than 10 months if I do not communicate with the Area Administrator about my plans for using the scholarship.
- Regular and consistent attendance is expected. Early Learning Scholarships does not pay for more than 25 absent days, 10 planned closure days and 11 program holidays. Absent days over 25 will not be covered by scholarships and charges must be paid at my own expense unless an official exemption has been extended to my child(ren).
- If the program is no longer participating in Parent Aware, I may not be able to continue to use the Early Learning Scholarship for that program.
- If I am a family child care provider participating in Parent Aware, I understand that I am not able to use my own child's Early Learning Scholarship at my licensed family child care.

### **Required Consent to Share Your Information**

You must consent to all of the following statements to participate in the scholarship program.

- The Area Administrator may share my child's/children's name, address, date of birth and gender, and my name and address as listed on the application, as well as any scholarship amount my child is eligible for and the award date, with the program I choose. This is needed to ensure accuracy between the application and the *Award Planning Agreement* and information retained by the program.
- The Area Administrator may share my child's/children's name, address, date of birth and gender, and my name and address as listed on the application with: (1) my local school district, for purposes of assigning my child a unique Statewide Student Identification (SSID) number to be used by the Scholarship/Area Administrator, and (2) the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) to identify my child and validate scholarship payments.
- The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) may share information about me and my child's/children's eligibility for and use of scholarships with other governmental agencies and programs including, but not limited to: the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), county or Tribal social agency workers, MFIP, SNAP, Head Start, free and reduced-price lunch (FRPL), and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). These agencies can also share information about me and my child's eligibility for and use of assistance with the Minnesota Department of Education. This information may be used to verify my family's income eligibility for scholarships and to monitor the use of scholarships and other public assistance programs. I understand that consent to share my information remains in effect for six months after my scholarship ends.

- Area Administrators may share information from this application with MDE including my name and address;
  demographic information; parent education; income information; my child's eligibility for and the amount of any
  Early Learning Scholarship; the program where I am using the scholarship; my child's SSID number; and whether or
  not I have complied with program requirements. This information is required to review eligibility, program
  implementation, and is necessary to comply with the state law authorizing the program.
- In order to verify the early childhood screening has taken place, the Area Administrator has my permission to contact the school district office of the child to verify the screening location and date.

**Note:** I do not have to consent to sharing my information, but if I choose not to, I understand my child/children will not be eligible to receive an Early Learning Scholarship. Information to be released does not include supporting documents attached to this application.

# **Tennessen Warning from the Minnesota Department of Education**

This notice applies to all information collected for the Early Learning Scholarships program. It explains what information we will collect and why we are collecting it.

#### What Information are we requesting?

We are requesting all information on the Early Learning Scholarship – Pathway I program application, some of which is considered private data under Minnesota law.

### Why do we ask you for this Information?

Information on this application is required to apply for an Early Learning Scholarship. We will use the information collected here, and any additional related information, to determine eligibility for funding. This information is necessary to comply with the state law authorizing the program.

#### Am I required to provide this data?

There is no legal obligation for you to provide the data requested; however, without it, we cannot determine your child's eligibility and your child will not receive a scholarship.

#### Who else may see this information?

As described elsewhere in the application, with your required informed consent we will share your information with the program that you choose, your resident school district, and the Minnesota Department of Education. If you provide your optional consent, a third-party entity will make use of your information when evaluating the effectiveness of the scholarship program for the state. All of these entities, including the evaluator, are bound by Minnesota's data practices and privacy laws and will not share your private data except as described here and in the consent. The evaluator must not share your data with anyone except MDE.

We may also give the data you have provided to the Legislative Auditor, the Minnesota Department of Human Services, and/or other agencies with the legal authority to access the information, or anyone authorized by a court order.

#### How else may this information be used?

We may use or release this information only as stated in this notice, unless you give us your written permission to release the information for another purpose or to another individual or entity. The information may be used for another purpose if the U.S. Congress or the Minnesota Legislature passes a law allowing or requiring other uses.

#### How long will my data be kept?

Your data will be kept for a minimum of seven years.

# **Parent/Guardian Signature**

### **Optional Consent: Release Information and Participate in an Evaluation**

Please initial to confirm that you have read, understand and agree to the following.

Area Administrator or MDE may share information from my application, my child's eligibility for and amount of any Early Learning Scholarship, and the program where I use my scholarship, with MDE-authorized program evaluators for purposes of analyzing how funds are spent, how families are informed about the program, the program's impact on child development or school readiness, the quality of early learning programs where scholarships are used, and other evaluations deemed relevant by MDE. No public report will include specific identifying information about any individual child.

#### By signing below, you agree and verify all of the following:

- 1. I verify that I am the parent or legal guardian, all information on this application is true, and the incomes of all adult household members are reported. I understand that if false information is given, my child/children may lose the scholarship and I may need to reimburse the state for funds already paid.
- 2. I agree to the program requirements described on the Agreement to Comply with Requirements page.
- 3. I agree to have my information and/or my child's information shared as described on the Required Consent to Share Your Information.
- 4. I agree that I have read and understand the Tennessen Warning.

### **Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian**

Sign in blue/black ink	or electronically, not in p	encil.		
*Parent/Guardian's Lo	egal Name:			
	First	Middle	Last	
*Signature:		*Date:_		
			Signature Date: MM/DD/YYYY	,

## **Submit Your Application**

Submit your completed application and eligibility documentation to your Area Administrator: