



## **Preschool Scholarship Program Information & Application 2021-2022**

Thank you for your interest in our Preschool Scholarship Program. State tax dollars are allocated to Cedar and Jones counties through Cedar/Jones Early Childhood Iowa to help support children and their families when they choose high quality early education for their child. Scholarships allow for access to financial assistance to help offset costs associated with early preschool education.

To apply for a Preschool Scholarship, complete the attached 2021-2022 application and send the application and **a most recent copy of Federal Income Tax Returns for all individuals supporting the household** to the Preschool Scholarship Manager. Only the current application completed in its entirety will be accepted.

### Eligibility Criteria:

- Your child will be 3, 4, or 5 years of age as of September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- Your child lives in Cedar or Jones County or within the boundaries of the Anamosa, Bennett, Durant, Midland, Monticello, North Cedar, Olin, Tipton, and West Branch School Districts.
- Children living outside of Cedar or Jones County must first apply for a preschool scholarship from the county of residence before determination will be made.
- Your child attends or will attend a high-quality participating preschool.
- Your family meets income guidelines. Please note that this is gross annual income and includes salary/wages/stipends, unemployment benefits, SSI, FIP, Social Security, Child Support, Veteran's benefits, and direct student loans.
- Your child is in Foster Care warranted through the Iowa Department of Human Services.

Scholarships will only be paid to preschools within Cedar and Jones counties meeting program guidelines. The Cedar/Jones Early Childhood Iowa Board will review exception requests to Preschool Scholarship policies upon individual requests.

If your child is awarded a scholarship, payment will be made directly to the preschool. A co-payment may be required by the preschool and will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Preschool attendance will be monitored by the school and reported to the Preschool Scholarship Program Manager monthly. At least 85% attendance will be required for participation in the scholarship program. If the child is sick and misses school, these days will not be included in the 85% attendance requirement if a written doctor's excuse is provided.

If attendance falls below 85%, one warning will be given to parents by program management. The second time attendance falls below 85%, the child may be terminated from the scholarship program and not be allowed to re-enter during the current school year. Full preschool tuition will then be the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

**Applications for Preschool Scholarships will not be considered until a completed application and most recent copies of Federal Income Tax Returns for all individuals supporting the household income has been received.**

Applications (pages 3-4) should be returned to and questions directed to:

Sherri Hunt  
 Preschool Scholarship Manager  
 Cedar/Jones Early Childhood Iowa  
 203 Hamilton Street  
 Anamosa, IA 52205

[sherri.hunt@jonescountyiowa.gov](mailto:sherri.hunt@jonescountyiowa.gov)  
 (319) 551-3402

The following table outlines 2021 Federal Poverty Guidelines. Requirements for Preschool Scholarships are ***200% or below*** Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Persons in family or household	100% of poverty	125% of poverty	130% of poverty	145% of poverty	150% of poverty	185% of poverty	200% of poverty
1	12,880	16,100	16,744	18,676	19,320	23,828	25,760
2	17,420	21,775	22,646	25,259	26,130	32,227	34,840
3	21,960	27,450	28,548	31,842	32,940	40,626	43,920
4	26,500	33,125	34,450	38,425	39,750	49,025	53,000
5	31,040	38,800	40,352	45,008	46,560	57,424	62,080
6	35,580	44,475	46,254	51,591	53,370	65,823	71,160
7	40,120	50,150	52,156	58,174	60,180	74,222	80,240
8	44,660	55,825	58,058	64,757	66,990	82,621	89,320
For each additional person add	\$4,540	\$5,675	\$5,902	\$6,583	\$6,810	\$8,399	\$9,080

***For your information*** -- The following programs use the Federal Poverty Guidelines:

- 100% - Head Start; Early Head Start
- 130% - Shared Visions Preschool; National School Lunch Program (Free - at or below 130%); Medicaid (133%)
- 145% - State Child Care Assistance
- 150% - Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP); Weatherization
- 185% - WIC; Title V - Maternal & Child Health Services.  
 National School Lunch Program (Reduced fees - between 130% - 185%)
- 200% - ECI Low-Income Preschool Tuition Assistance; Hawk-i;

\*Children at or below 100% of poverty could be eligible for Head Start and need to contact the Head Start Center nearest to their home. Preschool Scholarship funds are to avoid duplication of services and funds with other preschool programming including Head Start.



## 2021-2022 Preschool Scholarship Application

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Age: (as of September 15, 2021) 3 or 4 or 5 yrs. old (Circle One)

Male or Female (Circle One)

Is the Child Hispanic/Latino: Yes No

Race of Head of Child: Black or African American Asian White Multiracial

Native American/Alaskan Native Native Hawaiian/Pacific Island

School district in which child resides: \_\_\_\_\_

County in which child resides: \_\_\_\_\_

Preschool Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number of days per week: \_\_\_\_\_

**Head of Household Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Child: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status: Married Single Widowed Partnered Divorced Separated

Education Level: Middle School or Lower Some High School HS Diploma GED

Some College 2-Year College Degree Trade or Vocational Training

4 Year College Degree Master's Degree or Higher

**List all other people who live in your home:**

Name (First, Last)	Relationship to child (applicant)	Employer

Number of adults living in the home: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children living in the home: \_\_\_\_\_

**Documentation of income must be included with this application (pages 3 and 4) or the application will not be processed until the necessary documentation has been received.**

**Documentation:**

- Copy of Federal Income Tax Return or Returns for all individuals supporting the household

**If a Federal Income Tax Return is not available, documentation will be required for all forms of income. Please contact the Preschool Scholarship Program Manager for further information.**

By signing below, you agree to the terms of participation in the Preschool Scholarship Program including attendance and co-payment requirements and release of information to Cedar/Jones Early Childhood Iowa for program data collection and reporting. You are also stating that all above information is correct and all information relevant to the processing of this application has been disclosed. Individual personal information will be kept confidential.

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Date