



Fiscal Year 2021 Early Learning Scholarships

The Early Learning Scholarship Program awards scholarships of up to \$7,500 to high-need families meeting eligibility requirements. Starting on July 1, 2020, children in a priority status will be eligible for a higher cap.

A family's income must be equal to or less than 185 percent of the federal poverty level, per the chart below, or be participating in any of the following programs: free and reduced-price lunch, Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), Food Distribution on Indian Reservations, Head Start, Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), Supplemental Nutritional Aid Program (SNAP), or Foster Care.

Scholarships are prioritized to first meet the needs of children of teen parents, currently in foster care, in need of child protective services, or who have experienced homelessness in the last 24 months.

The chart below is based on the poverty guidelines published in the Federal Register on February 1, 2019.

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*	\$81,622

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

Scholarships are available to children who are age 3 or 4 years old on September 1 of the school year the scholarship is used, or age 5 if not yet aged out of eligibility. Some children ages 0 to 2 may also qualify if they meet a priority category or if they are the younger sibling of a child with an active scholarship award and are attending the same program.

Families interested in applying should contact their area or tribal administrator listed or call 1-888-291- 9811.

Fiscal Year 2021 Early Learning Scholarship Administrator Offices

Tri-Valley Opportunity Council: 1-800-543-7382

Region 1: Kittson, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, Roseau

Mahube-Otwa Community Action Partnership, Inc.: 218-632-3600

Region 2: Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, Mahnommen

Region 5: Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, Wadena

Northland Foundation: 1-800-433-4045

Region 3: Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, Saint Louis

Lakes and Prairies Community Action Partnership: 800-452-3646 or 218-512-1584

Region 4: Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse, Wilkin

Prairie Five Community Action Council, Inc.: 1-800-292-5437

Region 6E: Kandiyohi, McLeod, Meeker, Renville

Region 6W: Big Stone, Chippewa, Lac qui Parle, Swift, Yellow Medicine

Families First of Minnesota: 1-888-450-2773

Region 7E: Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine

Region 9: Blue Earth, Brown, Faribault, Le Sueur, Martin, Nicollet, Sibley, Waseca, Watonwan

Region 10: Dodge, Fillmore, Freeborn, Goodhue, Houston, Mower, Olmsted, Rice, Steele, Wabasha, Winona

West Metro: Carver, Dakota, and Scott Counties

Milestones (formerly Child Care Choices): 1-800-288-8549 or 320-251-5081

Region 7W: Benton, Sherburne, Stearns, Wright

Southwestern Minnesota Opportunity Council, Inc.: 1-800-658-2444

Region 8: Cottonwood, Jackson, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Rock

Think Small: 651-641-6604

Metro Twin Cities: Hennepin and Ramsey Counties

Anoka County Community Action Program: 763-783-4711

East Metro: Anoka and Washington Counties

Administrators: Tribal

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwa – Child Care Services: 1-800-551-0969

White Earth Reservation – Child Care/Early Childhood Programs: 1-800-950-3248