



*Cedar/Jones
Early Childhood Iowa*

Preschool Scholarship Program Information & Application 2016-2017

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 application and send the application and **a copy of your Federal Income Tax Return or Returns for all individuals supporting the household** to the Preschool Scholarship Manager.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Your child will be 3, 4, or 5 years of age as of September 15th, 2016.
- 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.
- Your child attends or will attend a participating.
- Your family meets income guidelines. Please note that this is gross 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.

Recipients of a Preschool Scholarships must live within the boundaries of Cedar and Jones counties. Recipients living outside the boundaries of Cedar and Jones counties, but within the boundaries of the Anamosa, Bennett, Durant, Midland, Monticello, North Cedar, Olin, Tipton, and West Branch School Districts shall also be eligible for funding unless funding is available and provided by another Early Childhood Iowa area. 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.

Application for Preschool Scholarships will not be considered until a completed application and a copy of the family Federal Income Tax Return (or all supporting household income verification documentation) has been received.

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

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

melissa.tucker@lsiowa.org
 (563) 886-4693

The following table outlines 2016 Federal Poverty Guidelines. Requirements for Cedar County Preschool Scholarships are **200% or below** Federal Poverty Guidelines.

Persons in family or household	100% of poverty	130% of poverty	145% of poverty	150% of poverty	185% of poverty	200% of poverty	300% of poverty
1	\$11,880	15,444	17,226	17,820	21,978	23,760	35,640
2	\$16,020	20,826	23,229	24,030	29,637	32,040	48,060
3	\$20,160	26,208	29,232	30,240	37,296	40,320	60,480
4	\$24,300	31,590	35,235	36,450	44,955	48,600	72,900
5	\$28,440	36,972	41,238	42,660	52,614	56,880	85,320
6	\$32,580	42,354	47,241	48,870	60,273	65,160	97,770
7	\$36,730	47,749	53,258	55,095	67,950	73,460	110,190
8	\$40,890	53,157	59,290	61,335	75,646	81,780	122,670
For each additional person add	\$4,160	5,408	6,032	6,240	7,696	8,320	12,480

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

- 100% - Head Start; Early Head Start
- 130% - Shared Visions; 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.



Cedar/Jones
Early Childhood Iowa

(For office use only)
Date Received _____

2016-2017 Preschool Scholarship Application

Date: _____

Child's Name: _____

Child's Date of Birth: _____ Male or Female (Circle One)

Child's Age: (as of September 15, 2016) 3 or 4 or 5 yrs. old (Circle One)

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: _____

Alternate Phone Number: _____

Email

Contact: _____

Marital Status: _____

Education Level: Some High School HS Diploma GED Trade or Vocational Training
2-Year College Degree 4 Year College Degree Master's Degree or Higher

Ethnicity: _____

List all other people who live in the 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