

United Way Preschool Scholarship Program

1. What is the United Way Preschool Scholarship Program?

The preschool scholarship program awards scholarships to four year olds living in Mower County to attend preschool. Scholarships are given to families who, due to income restrictions, cannot afford preschool without assistance. United Way receives donations from the community and the Hormel Foundation to fund this program.

2. What does the scholarship cover?

Scholarships cover a full year of tuition (approximately \$1,000 value) and a full year of transportation (approximately \$650 value) provided by AMCAT on the Rainbow Route (preschool route). Transportation is optional.

3. How do I find out if my child qualifies for a scholarship?

Individuals interested in a preschool scholarship (three and/or four year old) should contact Jenni Silvis at 433-5889 and make an appointment to fill out an application. Jenni works for SEMCAC and assists United Way in filling out the paperwork for this program. Proof of income for 2009 should be brought to this appointment.

The application taken by Jenni Silvis at SEMCAC is for the Head Start program. If your child qualifies for Head Start no scholarship will be offered. If your child is over the income guidelines for the Head Start program they will be considered for a United Way preschool scholarship.

4. How many scholarships are given each year?

Last school year, 2009/2010, forty-six were given out. In 2010/2011 United Way is planning on awarding a minimum of forty scholarships for four year olds. It is important to call Jenni Silvis and fill out the paperwork to see if your child qualifies for a scholarship.

Please note that many factors in addition to income are looked at when awarding scholarships; therefore if you have any financial difficulties affording preschool please make an appointment to speak with Jenni Silvis regarding eligibility.

5. When do I find out if my child is receiving a scholarship?

You will be notified if you child is receiving a scholarship by May 1, 2010.

6. Can I choose where my child attends preschool?

If you choose to take the transportation option your preschool will be assigned based on where your home/day care falls on the route.

If you are self transporting and the preschool of your choice has a spot available you may choose where your child attends.