



PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

JASPER, MARION, POWESHIEK EARLY CHILDHOOD AREA

Tuition Assistance Information for Families

Scholarship Program Overview

JMP Early Childhood Area offers preschool scholarships to help eligible families access high quality early learning programs for children ages three and four years old.

- Children must reside in Jasper, Marion, or Poweshiek counties and attend a participating preschool.
- Children must have turned three-years old on or before September 15, 2025 to be eligible.
- Support for extended-day education/care beyond Voluntary Preschool Program regular hours or for preschool programs contained within a child care setting will not be considered.
- Participating preschools are those that have met an identified quality standard (IQ4K, IQPPS, NAEYC, etc.) and have signed an agreement with the JMP ECI board to participate.
- The maximum scholarship amount is **\$200 per child**. Reimbursement for tuition will not exceed the amount of tuition charged.
- Reimbursements will be made directly to the participating preschool provider on behalf of the family each month after confirmation of attendance.

Eligibility Criteria

- Eligibility is based on current year Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPG)
- Families must have an income at or below 200% FPG
- Families with income at or below 160% FPG **must** first apply for *Child Care Assistance (CCA)* through the State of Iowa to be considered as a JMP scholarship recipient (this is a new requirement for the 25-26 academic year).
- Information about CCA can be found on the Iowa HHS website here: <https://www.iowa.gov/how-do-i-apply-child-care-assistance>
- A family that is below 160% FPL but is found ineligible for CCA for non-income reasons (not meeting work requirements, etc) may still receive scholarship assistance.
- Proof of either eligibility or ineligibility from CCA must be provided with the JMP scholarship application for families that provide income documentation showing income at 160% FPL or below.

Required Documents

- A complete application for each child seeking scholarship assistance
- Proof of income for each income earner in the household. Acceptable forms of documentation include the most recent federal tax return Form 1040 (preferable- only pages 1 and 2 are needed) or the three most recent pay stubs for each income earner in the household.
- Denial letter from Iowa CCA (if applicable)
- Incomplete documentation will delay scholarship decisions.

Family Responsibilities

- Your child must attend at least 90% of all available preschool sessions in which the child is enrolled unless absences are excused. The preschool provider will notify the family and the JMP ECI Executive Director if a child's attendance falls below 90%. Ongoing attendance problems may result in the loss of the awarded scholarship.
- The family must notify JMP ECI within 20 days if there is a significant change in household income, if there is a change in your eligibility for CCA, or if there are any other changes that may affect the child's eligibility.
- Families are responsible for paying any portion of the tuition that is not covered by the scholarship such as snack/meal fees, late pick-up fees, and activity/field trip fees.
- Families must remain in good standing with both the participating preschool and the JMP ECI scholarship program in order to receive continued support.
- All required documents must be submitted at the time of application. Applications will not be considered for scholarship until accurate and complete documentation is submitted.

Additional Notes

- Preschools will be notified directly about scholarship awards. Families may contact their preschool regarding scholarship amounts.
- Applications may be submitted directly to JMP ECI along with supporting documentation.
- Tuition assistance is not guaranteed and is supplemental to other financial aid programs (CCA, HeadStart, etc.).
- Applications will be reviewed beginning August 15.
- Notices of award will be made as soon as reasonably possible after August 15.
- The JMP board is implementing these new scholarship parameters at the direction of HHS and the State ECI board.

Contact Information

To submit an application or if you have questions, need assistance, or must report changes, contact:

JMP Early Childhood Iowa
Amy Blanchard
PO Box 344
Grinnell, IA 50112
641-236-1561
amy@greaterpcf.org
www.jmpeci.org

2025 Federal Poverty Scale for reference			
Annual Income			
# in household	100% FPL	160% FPL	200% FPL
1	\$15,650	\$25,040.0	\$31,300
2	\$21,150	\$33,840.0	\$42,300
3	\$26,650	\$42,640.0	\$53,300
4	\$32,150	\$51,440.0	\$64,300
5	\$37,650	\$60,240.0	\$75,300
6	\$43,150	\$69,040.0	\$86,300
7	\$48,650	\$77,840.0	\$97,300
8	\$54,150	\$86,640.0	\$108,300
add for each additional member	\$5,500	\$8,800.0	\$11,000



JASPER, MARION & POWESHIEK (JMP)
EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA AREA
2025-26 PRESCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Child Information: To be completed by parent/guardian

Full Name: _____ () Female () Male

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Age on Sept. 15, 2025: ____ Years ____ Months

Name of preschool that child will be attending: _____

Days attending preschool (check all that apply):

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

Time Attending: AM Session PM Session Full Day **Tuition per month:** _____

Race/ Ethnicity of Child (circle):

White Hispanic/Latino More than one race
African American Native American or Alaskan Native Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
Asian

Family Information: To be completed by parent/guardian(s)

Parent/Guardian 1:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Employer: _____

Parent/Guardian 2:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Employer: _____

Current Household: Number of Adults _____ Number of Children _____ Total _____

Household Marital Status (circle):

Married Single Widowed Partnered Divorced Separated

Educational level of head of household (circle):

Middle school or lower Some high school High School diploma
GED Trade or vocational 2 years of college
4 years of college Masters or higher

Please let us know if you have applied and or qualified for the following programs:

	<u>Applied</u>		<u>Qualified</u>		<u>Status Pending</u>
Child Care Assistance	Y	N	Y	N	O
Head Start	Y	N	Y	N	O
FIP	Y	N	Y	N	O
WIC	Y	N	Y	N	O

Income:

What is your household's gross monthly income (before taxes are taken out)? _____

(Include wages, unemployment income, workman's compensation, child support, alimony, social security, other)

What income verification (such tax returns or paycheck stubs) are you providing?

- Most recent tax filing
 3 current paystubs for each income earner
 Child Care Assistance Denial Letter/Notification (necessary if proof of income is less than 161%FPL)

Parent/Guardian Signature:

By signing below, I verify that the information supplied herein is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I also authorize the Preschool to verify the information on this application, and to release this information to the JMP Early Childhood Area Board when requested. I understand that any amount of tuition scholarship received will go directly to the preschool my child is attending. It is expected that my child's preschool attendance will be 90%. If attendance does not meet 90% and absences are unexcused (examples of excused absence: child illness, family crisis), the preschool program director will meet with the JMP ECI Director about absences. Ongoing attendance issues may result in the loss of my preschool tuition scholarship.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Completed Applications AND income verification documents (page 1 of your most recent Federal Income Tax Return, last 3 employment check stubs for all employed adults in the household, or social security payment stub etc.) should be returned to the address below. Applications will be reviewed beginning August 15.

Completion of this application does not guarantee a JMP Preschool Scholarship. You will be notified by your preschool if your child will receive a scholarship for the 2025-26 school year. Decisions will be made as soon as possible.

Thank you for applying. If you have questions about the JMP Preschool Scholarship program please contact Amy Blanchard, JMP ECI Director, at 641-236-1561 or via email at amy@greaterpcf.org
 COMPLETE Applications can be emailed to the above address or mailed to:

JMP Early Childhood Area
 Attn: Amy Blanchard
 PO Box 344
 Grinnell, IA 50112

For JMP Use Only:	_____ Approved	_____ Not Approved
	FPL: ≤ 100%	101-160% 161-200% > 200%