



Scholarship Application Information

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

God's Garden Child Development Center offers scholarship opportunities, yearly. Scholarships help families afford high quality early care and education for their young children. There are several different scholarship programs available, and we will help you determine which scholarship best meets your family's needs.

In order to receive a scholarship, families must complete an application, attach the required documentation, and submit to the Preschool Director. Required documentation includes one of the following: one month of recent pay stubs, current tax records, written statement from current employer, public assistance (AHCCCS, Food Stamps, etc.) letter, etc. You must also provide proof of legal residency for your child.

Parents must apply for scholarships in the following order:

- 1) Quality First Scholarship (birth to 5 years)
- 2) ACSTO Scholarship (for Kindergarteners only)
- 3) ESA (Empowerment Scholarship Account) Scholarship Program by the Arizona Dept of Ed.
- 4) Horizon Church Scholarship (birth to Kindergarten)

For students enrolled in Kindergarten, in order to qualify for a scholarship, families must apply for the ACSTO Scholarship or the ESA Scholarship Program prior to the Horizon Church Scholarship.

ACSTO Scholarship is a school tuition tax credit. ACSTO uses tax credit donations to award tuition scholarships to Christian School students attending one of their partner schools, like God's Garden. Please visit the ACSTO website for more information: <https://acsto.org/>. Once you have applied for the ACSTO Scholarship, the next step is to ask friends and family members to donate their tax dollars to your child and/or God's Garden via ACSTO. Donors get a dollar per dollar credit on their state taxes for this donation.

ESA Scholarship refers to the Empowerment Scholarship Account Program. An ESA is an account administered by Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and funded by state tax dollars to expand educational opportunities for eligible students outside of the public school system in Arizona. The ESA program provides public funding to pay for private school tuition, educational therapies, tutoring, and more. Eligible students receive 90% of the State aid that would have gone to the student's school district or charter school had the student remained enrolled in the public school system. Please visit the ESA website for more information: <https://azsbe.az.gov/empowerment-scholarship-account-esa-program>

Only if you do not qualify for the Quality First Scholarship, the ACSTO Scholarship, or the ESA Scholarship should you apply for the Horizon Church Scholarship. The Horizon Church Scholarship grants up to 50% of the total monthly tuition cost on a first-come, first-serve basis and is tied to family income levels and/or financial hardship. They are available for parents who may be working, looking for work, or improving their work skills through training or education. Other eligibility requirements may apply. This scholarship may be used to offset the balance left unpaid by the ACSTO Scholarship or the ESA Scholarship. The initial deadline to apply for Scholarships is August 16th, but applications may be submitted after August 16th if funds are available.

Please contact me with any questions.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michelle Rhodes, PhD".

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