



FMC Community Empowerment Floyd-Mitchell-Chickasaw Counties 2010 Preschool Scholarship Application Guidelines

FMC Empowerment preschool scholarships are offered through Iowa School Ready funds. Specific legislative language (HF 2679) states that the Preschool Programming Support for Low-income Families...*shall be used to assist low-income parents with preschool tuition; for other supportive services for children ages three, four, and five who are not attending kindergarten, in order to increase the basic family income eligibility requirement to not more than 200% of the federal poverty level; and for preschool program expenses not covered under chapter 256C (Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-year-old Children).** For the most current HHS Poverty Guidelines visit, http://www.empowerment.state.ia.us/common/pdf/fed_poverty_guidelines.pdf

FMC Empowerment offers scholarships to assist with tuition costs not covered by other state or federal funding, for preschool services for children ages three, four and five who are not yet in kindergarten and whose families meet the eligibility guidelines.

- If a child is 5 years old by September 15 and attends a public preschool, the child is not eligible for a preschool scholarship from FMC Empowerment.
- FMC Empowerment Scholarships are awarded to families meeting guidelines for the FMC Empowerment zone. (Contact your preschool provider for specific information).
- Participating preschools must meet the licensing requirements of the Department of Human Services and be engaged in QPPS (Quality Preschool Program Standards) or QRS (Quality Rating System), and have a signed, written letter of agreement with the FMC Community Empowerment Board.
- Scholarships are for tuition assistance only.
- If the student moves outside the FMC Empowerment area, the scholarship ends. Priority will be given to FMC resident children attending FMC Empowerment preschools. Those children attending an FMC preschool, but residing outside the FMC Zone, will be considered for a scholarship on an individual basis.
- Once a scholarship is awarded it is set for the year, unless state funding changes or family income status changes.
- If a student's attendance becomes a concern, the scholarship might be discontinued, pending a review of the FMC Empowerment preschool committee. A waiting list may be in effect, with students eligible for scholarships.
- Parent(s)/guardians have the right to appeal the scholarship decision. They must be informed of this right. Once informed, they have 30 days from that date to appeal. The local FMC Empowerment Advisory Appeals Council will hear the appeal, and in turn, make a decision to the parent(s)/guardian. Parent(s)/guardians may appeal that decision to the FMC Empowerment Board
- Requests for scholarship claim payments will be directed to the FMC Empowerment Coordinator by the preschool provider.
- The FMC Empowerment Board reserves the right to revise this information as needed.
- The FMC Empowerment programs are available to all, without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.

**Iowa Community Empowerment guidelines, Tool CC (A), adopted by the Iowa Empowerment Board, 7/11/08*

FMC Preschool Scholarship guidelines effective August 1, 2009-June 31, 2010

FMC Community Empowerment Floyd-Mitchell-Chickasaw Counties

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