



Frequently Asked Questions by Parents

How do I apply for a Pay it Forward Scholarship?

Complete the online application at <https://www.payitforwardscholarships.com/scholarships>. The first page (contains name, address, dependents, taxable income) of your most recently filed tax return must be attached to the application in order for the form to be successfully submitted.

What is the deadline to apply for a Pay it Forward Scholarship?

December 31st for the upcoming scholarship cycle. Ex: December 31, 2023 for the 2024 Pay it Forward Scholarship

How do I know if my child is approved for a Pay it Forward Scholarship?

Your child is automatically approved once you complete the online application process. PIFS will review and audit applications and contact you if we have a question regarding your child's eligibility or if information is missing from the application.

How are the scholarships funded?

Pay it Forward Scholarships are funded by the Georgia Qualified Education Expense Tax Credit program. The GA QEE Tax Credit Program provides a dollar-for-dollar tax credit when Georgia taxpayers request the tax credit, are approved, and then donate their tax credit to Pay it Forward Scholarships. Tax credits are available on a first-come, first served basis through the GA Department of Revenue. PIFS requests tax credits for our donors annually in January. Funds must be paid within 60 days of being approved. Taxpayers decide what school they want their funds to benefit. For more information about the tax credit program please see our document entitled "Frequently Asked Questions by Donors."

How much of a scholarship will my child receive?

Your child will receive an equal distribution of any scholarship funds received by PIFS that are designated for your school. Ex: If PIFS receives funds for ABC School and there are 10 approved students (including your child) who we verified are enrolled/enrolling AND meet the eligibility requirements at ABC School, we would divide those funds equally amongst the 10 students. If no funds are received for your child's school, there are no funds to distribute. Scholarship funds vary from year to year. PIFS does not provide a guaranteed scholarship amount prior to our distribution. Scholarships are meant to be a help to parents who are sending their child to private school. It is a rare circumstance that PIFS provides a full-tuition scholarship.

When are Pay it Forward Scholarships distributed?

PIFS distributes scholarship funds on an annual basis. Our goal is to have all funds ready for distribution by April 15th of each year.

How are Pay it Forward Scholarships distributed to the school?

PIFS partners with ClassWallet to distribute scholarship funds. Schools and parents of scholarship recipients create a ClassWallet account. Parents authorize the scholarship funds through ClassWallet before they are transferred to the school via ACH. Other available methods of distribution include checks and/or credit card transactions.

Does my child's school have to do anything to receive the funds?

No. PIFS does ALL of the scholarship administration. PIFS only asks the school to verify eligibility and enrollment of students, then the school credits your child's account with the scholarship when the funds are received.

What if my school uses or promotes a different student scholarship organization?

No problem at all. We encourage parents to maximize their scholarship resources, just like college and layer scholarships from SSOs. The Georgia Department of Education sets an annual cap of scholarship funds per child.

What if my child's school says it won't accept scholarships from other SSOs?

Just let them know that the state of Georgia has ruled that your scholarship is your property and not the school's. You don't have to go through the school's financial aid to receive a Pay it Forward Scholarship.

Do I have to reapply for my child to receive the scholarship each year?

Yes, you need to submit an updated application each year you wish for your child to receive a scholarship. Once your child is approved and receives a scholarship, he/she remains eligible for their entire school career, but PIFS must have updated information on file each year.