



United Way of Bucks County Pre-K Scholarship Application 2022-23 for Military Families

Thanks to local generous donors, United Way of Bucks County is able to provide pre-k scholarships to families who are serving or have served in the U.S. Military. Below is the information you need to apply for a UW Bucks pre-k scholarship (for military families only).

Eligibility Criteria

- **Child's Age:** The child must be 3 to 4 years old by August 31, 2022
- **Residency:** The family must live in Bucks County
- **Family Income:** May not exceed \$96,676 plus \$17,017 for each dependent (as defined by the IRS)
- **Military Status:** One of the child's parents must be on Active Duty, Reserve or Guard Forces, or a Veteran/Retiree

UW Bucks may establish additional criteria for prioritizing scholarship recipients. For example, priority may be given to families experiencing financial crisis, children with special needs, homeless children, foster children, etc.

How to Apply

1. Complete page 1 and 2 of the United Way of Bucks County Pre-K Scholarship Application.
2. Make copies of the following supporting documents:
 - Child's birth certificate
 - Proof of residency: residential lease or mortgage coupon plus a utility bill, insurance card, or other document with the parent's current address
 - The first 2 pages of the 2021 tax return (IRS Form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ) for all adults living in the household. If the child is not claimed by one of the adults living in the household, the first 2 pages of the return on which the child is claimed must also be submitted.
 - Verification of the parent's military status, such as a copy of DD Form 214, DD Form 256, NGB Form 22, or Military of Veteran ID card.
3. Have the director of the pre-k program where you would like to use the scholarship complete page 3 of your UW scholarship application. Pre-k programs must meet the following criteria:
 - Located in Bucks County
 - Participates in the Keystone STARS program (STAR 3 or 4 programs preferred)
 - In good quality standing with no negative sanctions or unresolved compliance issues
 - Willing to partner with United Way of Bucks County to provide the scholarship

Please Note: The participating programs will require additional information in order to complete the enrollment process. This will include the child's updated physical exam and immunization records.

If you have questions or need more information about this scholarship program, contact:
Candi Guerrero at 215-949-1660, ext. 108 or candig@uwbucks.org



United Way of Bucks County Pre-K Scholarship Application 2022-23 (Military)

1. Child Information

Please print clearly.

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State: PA Zip Code _____

Male ___ Female ___ Ethnicity (Check One): ___ Non-Hispanic ___ Hispanic ___ Other _____

Race (Check One): ___ African American ___ Caucasian ___ Asian ___ American Indian
___ Native Hawaiian ___ Multi-Racial ___ Other _____

Child's Primary Language _____ Language(s) spoken at home _____

Does the child have any special needs? ___ No ___ Yes (please specify): _____

If yes, does the child have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)? ___ Yes ___ No

2. Parent/Guardian Information

1st Parent/Guardian Name _____ Relationship to Child _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State: PA Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Employment Status (*Check all that apply*): ___ Full time ___ Part time ___ Unemployed
___ In school/training program Military Service: ___ Active ___ Reserve ___ Veteran

2nd Parent/Guardian Name _____ Relationship to Child _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ State: PA Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Employment Status (*Check all that apply*): ___ Full time ___ Part time ___ Unemployed
___ In school/training program Military Service: ___ Active ___ Reserve ___ Veteran

3. Family Income Information

1st Parent/Guardian Annual Income: _____ 2nd Parent/Guardian Annual Income: _____

Additional Income (if applicable): _____ Total Household Annual Income: _____

Number of adults living in the home: _____ ages of the adults: _____

Number of children living in the home: _____ ages of the children: _____

4. Additional Child and Family Information

Please check the situations experienced recently by the child, the child's parent(s), or the child's sibling(s):

<input type="checkbox"/> home eviction or foreclosure	<input type="checkbox"/> foster care or kinship care	<input type="checkbox"/> single parent household
<input type="checkbox"/> living with another family	<input type="checkbox"/> Child Protective Services	<input type="checkbox"/> custody/child support issues
<input type="checkbox"/> homelessness	<input type="checkbox"/> unemployment	<input type="checkbox"/> medical disability
<input type="checkbox"/> bankruptcy	<input type="checkbox"/> incarceration	<input type="checkbox"/> domestic violence/abuse
<input type="checkbox"/> unexpected medical, legal, or other major expense	<input type="checkbox"/> extended hospitalization or inpatient care	<input type="checkbox"/> death of the child's parent(s) or sibling(s)

5. Release of Information

Please acknowledge your understanding of the expectations relating to privacy, confidentiality, and the release of information by putting your initials next to each statement:

As stewards of individual, community, and government contributions, United Way of Bucks County may be asked to report on the pre-k scholarships that are awarded. It may be necessary for UW Bucks to report student demographic information, assessment data, and other information related to the students' participation in the pre-k program. **UW Bucks is committed to respecting the privacy of the children and families who receive our pre-k scholarships.** When necessary, we will report or publish group data without names or identifying details. For the purposes of reporting to funders, we may ask a family to share their story without using names or identifying details. In those cases, we will contact parents/caregivers directly.

The information provided in this application will be held in strict confidence. It will be reviewed only by UW Bucks, scholarship administrators, and the program in which the child is enrolled. If the information needs to be shared with any additional parties, UW Bucks will request consent from the parents/guardians before doing so.

UW Bucks occasionally uses program photos to help raise awareness and/or money to support early childhood education. Children and family names are never included with the photos. **Do you authorize the use of photographs in which your child may appear for promotional purposes?** Yes No

6. Parent/Guardian Signature

- I certify that the information in this application is true and correct and that all income reported and income documents provided are a true and accurate verification of my annual household income.
- I understand that intentionally misrepresenting information may result in the scholarship being denied or terminated.
- I understand that scholarship funding will be provided for the 2022-23 school year, and only 1) if my child is enrolled in a participating pre-k program, and 2) if I stay current on the tuition balance. Any unused portion of the scholarship award must be refunded to United Way of Bucks County.
- I understand that UW Bucks should be notified about changes to my child's enrollment or regular schedule.
- I understand that the scholarships are awarded based on criteria that is prioritized by United Way of Bucks County and the participating pre-k programs.
- I agree to release United Way of Bucks County, and its Board of Officers and Directors and employees or partners, from any liability in its efforts to provide scholarship funding which is renewable annually at the sole discretion of United Way of Bucks County.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

United Way of Bucks County Pre-K Scholarship Sliding Scale

United Way scholarships assist families in need with the cost of their child's pre-k education. The Federal Poverty Guidelines below are used to assess a family's financial need and eligibility for other pre-k funding options. A family's income, and in some cases other factors or significant changes in the family's well-being and stability, will be considered in determining if and how much scholarship assistance will be awarded.

Federal Poverty Guidelines (2022)

Family Size	100%	200%	300%	400%
1	\$13,590	27,180	40,770	54,360
2	\$18,310	36,620	54,930	73,240
3	\$23,030	46,060	69,090	92,120
4	\$27,750	55,500	83,250	111,000
5	\$32,470	64,940	97,410	129,980
6	\$37,190	74,380	111,570	148,760
7	\$41,910	83,820	125,730	167,640
8	\$46,630	93,260	139,890	186,520

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services:
<https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines>

Please Note: UW Bucks offers pre-K scholarships as a fund of last resort, when public funding is not an option. If a family is eligible for Head Start (100% of poverty or lower), or Child Care Works (200% of poverty or lower), or Pre-K Counts (300% of poverty or lower), the family is encouraged to apply for and access those programs. Only families who are not eligible or able to access those publicly funded programs may be considered for a scholarship.

If you have questions or need help, contact Candi Guerrero at 215-949-1660 ext 108 or candig@uwbucks.org

Using the Federal Poverty Guidelines and the Sliding Scale below, this is how to determine the scholarship amount that should be requested:

- 1) Find the number of people in the family (Family Size).
- 2) Follow across to identify the two columns that show the family's income range.
Example: A family of 3 with \$55,800 annual income is 200-300% over poverty.
- 3) Check the sliding scale to determine the maximum percentage of pre-k costs that should be requested for that income range.
Example: If a family's income range is 201-300% over poverty, the scholarship request should not be more than 50% of the cost.

Sliding Scale

Family Income (percent over poverty)	Maximum Request (percent of pre-k costs)
0-100%	70%
101-200%	60%
201-300%	50%
301-400%	40%
More than 400%	20%



June 10, 2022

Dear Program Director,

United Way of Bucks County is pleased to offer scholarships to help local military families with Pre-K education and child care costs for the 2022-23 school year. To expand opportunities for our military families and to accommodate and serve them well, we will offer the scholarships at the program of their choice.

If a family contacts you about using a United Way scholarship at your program, we will reach out to you to provide the information and details you need to make an informed choice about accepting the scholarship.

This is a brief overview of our scholarship program:

1. **Family Eligibility:** To be eligible for a scholarship, families must meet the criteria outlined in the UW Bucks scholarship packet.
2. **Program Eligibility:** To receive a scholarship on behalf of a family, a program must meet the following criteria:
 - Located in Bucks County
 - Participates in the Keystone STARS program (STAR 3 or 4 programs preferred)
 - In good quality standing with no negative sanctions or unresolved compliance issues
 - Willing to partner with United Way of Bucks County to administer a scholarship
3. When a scholarship is awarded, UW Bucks will outline the terms of the scholarship (amount, length of time, etc.). Once the family and the program have agreed to the terms, UW Bucks will make monthly payments directly to the program on behalf of the family.
4. A sliding scale is used to determine the amount of a scholarship.
5. Scholarships are typically awarded for a school year and may include summer if needed.

For a copy of the UW Bucks Pre-K Scholarship Application 2022-23 for military families go to:

bit.ly/prek-military-scholarship-bucks

UW Bucks guides families and programs through each step of the scholarship application and award process. We maintain transparency to ensure that families and programs have the same understanding of the scholarship terms and expectations.

We look forward to the opportunity to work with you to provide children of military families a high-quality pre-k education at your program.

For more information, contact Candi Guerrero at 215-949-1660, ext. 108 or candig@uwbucks.org

Candi Guerrero
Director of Education