



Upcoming events:

Monday, 1/18 - No school. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Thursday, 1/21 - Qtr. II ends

Friday, 1/22 - Staff day. No student attendance
Montessori and Kindergarten Parent/Teacher conferences

Montessori and Kindergarten parents - Parent/Teacher Zoom conferences - Friday, January 22

If you would like to schedule a Zoom conference with your child's teacher, please contact the office by Wednesday, January 20 to schedule a time. Conferences will be scheduled in 15 minute increments beginning at 8:45 am, with the last conference scheduled for 3:00 pm. If you are unable to schedule within this timeframe, please contact the teacher to make alternative arrangements.



BISON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The application process is now open for new families; parents can visit their website at www.bisonfund.com to complete a scholarship pre-application for the 2021-22 school year. You may also find the link on our website — www.stella-niagara.com.

The pre-application deadline is February 28, 2021. All pre-applications will be entered in our lottery drawing to be held on March 1, 2021. If families are drawn in the lottery, they will receive an email with instructions on how to proceed with the application. They will also notify families who are not selected and place them on a waiting list.

NOTE: parents of 4 year-old students take note as the scholarships are awarded to students in K-8 based on eligibility.

Current families will receive an email with a link to complete the requalification process on February 22, 2021



Friday, January 15 - GO BILLS!!!!

We will have a jeans & sneakers, Bills apparel or red, white & blue colors to cheer on our Bills team into the playoffs!



BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

FAQ FOR FAMILIES

More detailed information can be found on our website at www.bisonfund.com

Who qualifies for a BISON K-8 scholarship?

Residents of the 8 counties of Western New York (WNY) with children entering K-8th grade with a total family income within the income eligibility scale. You may only apply for your biological or legal guardian children.



How do new families apply?

New families must complete a pre-application form electronically (online) on our website at bisonfund.com. **The new family deadline is February 28, 2021.** Preference is NOT given to early applications; however you must apply by 2/28 to be considered for the lottery. Families applying after the February 28, 2021 deadline will be placed on our waitlist.

How are BISON scholarship recipients chosen?

Scholarships are awarded using a lottery system from all submitted pre-application forms on **March 1, 2021.** Lottery winners will receive an email with a link directing them to complete a full application in order to receive the scholarship.



How do I know if I won the lottery?

All applicants will be notified of lottery results by email on **March 1, 2021.** If you're not chosen in the lottery you can always reapply for the next school year.

I received a scholarship award email ... now what?

In your award email, there will be a link to complete your full application. Click on the link and follow the application steps. **The deadline to complete the application is April 30, 2021.** Please be sure to include all your income sources including your FEDERAL 1040 tax return, child support, business income, public assistance, food stamps, Social Security income, unemployment insurance, worker's compensation and financial assistance from family & friends. Select your school (a complete list can be found on our website) and contact the school to complete the school commitment form. After receipt of all the required documents, your scholarship will be calculated based on your household size and income, as well as tuition amount. You must renew annually to continue with BISON.



I received an email that I'm on a waitlist ... now what?

Unfortunately, there are always more applicants than available funding. We keep waitlist names for the academic year hopeful that additional funding becomes available. If you are not taken off the waitlist, you will need to resubmit a pre-application next year to be considered.



Why do families have to pay part of the tuition?

One key component of educational success is parental involvement. Making a financial sacrifice is a strong incentive to becoming and remaining, involved. BISON families are required to pay a minimum of \$500 each year.



BISON

CHILDREN'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Giving Parents a Choice • Giving Children a Chance

A private scholarship fund providing tuition assistance for low-income families throughout the 8 counties of Western New York who want to enroll their children in private schools.

BISON Scholarship Quick Facts:

- Average scholarship of \$1,480 and maximum award of \$2,500.
- Currently BISON has over 1,940 scholars in 81 different private schools across Western New York.
- Each family must contribute toward their child's private education.

STEP 1

Complete a **pre-application online at bisonfund.com** between **January 1, 2021 and February 28, 2021**.
If you have any questions, you can call BISON at (716) 854-0869 ext. 1.

Income Eligibility Amounts:

Household Size	Total Income (Based on 2020 household income)
2	\$ 46,548
3	\$ 58,644
4	\$ 70,740
5	\$ 82,836
6	\$ 94,932
7	\$ 107,028
8	\$ 119,124

STEP 3

If selected, complete the full application online. Enroll your child(ren) in the school of their choice and ask the school to complete the school commitment form.

STEP 2

Watch for notification after the **BISON Lottery** is held on **March 1, 2021**. Lottery winners will receive an email with a link directing them to complete a full application to receive the scholarship. If you're not chosen, you will automatically be placed on the BISON waitlist.

STEP 4

Once all the steps are completed, BISON will notify you of your scholarship amount. Watch for email notices to annually renew your BISON Scholarship in February of each year.



BISON Contact Information:

Cindy McDonald, Program Director

(716) 854-0869 ext. 1

cmcdonald@bisonfund.com

SNEP SCRIP ORDER FORM

Date _____

Phone number (for questions) _____

Name _____ Email address (required) _____

Orders must be in by Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. to be available for Friday delivery.

Product	%	QTY	Total
Clothing & Accessories			
Aeropostale \$25.00	10%		\$
American Eagle® \$25.00	10%		\$
Children's Place \$25.00	12%		\$
Claire's \$10.00	9%		\$
Gap \$25.00	14%		\$
H&M \$25.00	7%		\$
J. Crew \$25.00	13%		\$
Lands' End \$25.00	15%		\$
Marshalls \$25.00	7%		\$
Old Navy \$25.00	14%		\$
T.J. Maxx \$25.00	7%		\$
Department Store			
JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$
Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$
Macy's \$25.00	10%		\$
Dining - Casual			
Applebee's \$25.00	8%		\$
Carrabba's Italian Grill	10%		\$
Cheesecake Factory \$25.00	5%		\$
Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$
Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$
Olive Garden \$25.00	8%		\$
P.F. Chang's China Bistro	8%		\$
Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$
Discount Store & Outlets			
Burlington \$25.00	8%		\$
Sam's Club \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Target \$10.00	2.5%		\$
Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Fast Food			
Burger King \$10.00	4%		\$
Chipotle Mexican Grill \$10.00	10%		\$
Dairy Queen \$10.00	3%		\$
Dunkin' Donuts \$10.00	3%		\$
Dunkin' Donuts \$25.00	3%		\$
Panera Bread \$10.00	8%		\$
Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$
Starbucks \$10.00	7%		\$
Starbucks \$25.00	7%		\$
Subway Restaurants \$10.00	6%		\$
Tim Hortons \$10.00	5%		\$
Wendy's \$10.00	6.5%		\$
Subway Restaurants \$10.00	6%		\$
Tim Hortons \$10.00	5%		\$
Wendy's \$10.00	6.5%		\$

Product	%	QTY	Total
Gas & Auto			
A-Plus Convenience \$50.00	1%		\$
Advance Auto Parts \$25.00	7%		\$
Home Decor			
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25.00	7%		\$
Pottery Barn \$25.00	8%		\$
Home Improvement			
Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$
Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$
The Home Depot® \$25.00	4%		\$
Online Shopping			
Amazon.com \$100.00	2.25%		\$
Amazon.com \$25.00	2.25%		\$
iTunes & App Store \$15.00	5%		\$
iTunes & App Store \$25.00	5%		\$
Nike \$25.00	12%		\$
Specialty Retailer			
Build-A-Bear Workshop	8%		\$
Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft	6%		\$
Sporting Goods & Outdoors			
Cabela's \$25.00	10%		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$
Travel			
Disney \$25.00	3%		\$
Marriott \$100.00	6%		\$
Hilton \$100.00	2%		\$
Universal Prepaid Cards			
Discover Gift Card - \$100	1.25%		\$
Discover Gift Card - \$50	1.25%		\$
Visa Gift Card - \$100	1.25%		\$
Visa Gift Card - \$50	1.25%		\$
Groceries			
Tops - \$25	5%		\$
Tops - \$50	5%		\$
Tops - \$100	5%		\$
Electronics & Office			
Best Buy \$25.00	4%		\$
GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$
Office Depot / Office Max	5%		\$
Entertainment			
Dave & Buster's \$25.00	13%		\$
Health & Beauty			
Bath & Body Works \$10.00	12%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	12%		\$
CVS Pharmacy \$25.00	6%		\$
Rite Aid \$25.00	4%		\$
ULTA \$25.00	4%		\$

There are many more cards and denominations available in the RaiseRight App or at shopwithscrip.com.

You can shop online or write additional cards on the back of this sheet!

Make checks payable to SNEP Scrip Program No. of Cards _____ Amount _____ Ch.# _____

Order on line at Shopwithscrip.com! Our enrollment code is: AAL7DCB56146.