Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

How do I know if I qualify?

Review the eligibility criteria for each type of scholarship. Contact Upwards with any questions. Call them at 323.991.7368 or via their website at upwards.com/childcare-assistance.

Can I check my income eligibility before applying?

Yes. Area median income limits are updated each year and are scaled based upon household size. You can view the 2023 income limits <u>here</u>. The 2024 income limits are likely to be released in April or May of 2024.

What amount of a scholarship will I receive?

The Needs-Based scholarship is awarded on a case-by-case basis. Families are expected to contribute at least 10% of their income towards their childcare expenses and the maximum amount of a needs-based scholarship is \$1700 per month. This <u>calculator</u> helps potentially eligible families estimate the possible amount of a needs-based scholarship. This is just an estimate and does not guarantee any actual payment.

Both the Infant and Toddler and Park City Municipal Employee scholarships are both \$200 per month, per child.

What documents do I need to apply?

You will need to establish proof of the child's age, proof of income, proof of residency (if applicable), proof of employment (if applicable), and proof of DWS benefits (if applicable).

Will I receive the scholarship award directly?

No. All scholarship awards will be made directly to the childcare provider. Families do not receive any funds directly.

How do I know if I am approved or denied?

Submit an application through Upwards. They will inform you of your eligibility status within one week.

What do I do if I am denied?

Upwards makes all eligibility determinations. There is no formal appeal process. Once the 2024 Area Median Income limits are issued this Spring, check your income against the current limits in case it changes your eligibility status.

Is immigration status considered when determining eligibility?

No. Your immigration status will not be asked for when applying to the Park City Child Care Needs-Based Scholarship Program. We welcome all families in need of childcare assistance, regardless of immigration status. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

Do I have to pay taxes on subsidy/scholarship awards received?

According to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), payments made directly to child care providers under subsidy programs are generally not considered taxable income for the parents receiving the assistance. This is because the subsidies are intended to cover the costs of child care services and are not viewed as income to the recipients. However, it's always a good idea to consult with a tax professional or refer to the latest IRS guidelines for specific tax implications related to child care subsidies.

Do I have to pay the Upwards partner fee?

Child care providers partnering with Upwards under the Park City Childcare Program will not be assessed the 3% partner fee. Families do not pay any application fees.

How are multiple children handled?

For the Needs-Based scholarship, the 10% family contribution is in the aggregate, not per child. The Toddler and Infant and Park City Municipal Employee scholarships are awarded per child.