

Program Overview

FIND Food Bank, the Desert's Regional Food Bank, is working with middle school and high school students pursuing a specific extracurricular activity through the Opportunity Bank Scholarship Program. The Opportunity Bank Scholarship, valued up to \$800, will assist students in waiving fees associated with participation in extracurricular activities that may include, but are not limited to, registration fees, equipment, transportation, or tutoring. With the support of the Opportunity Bank Scholarship and through participation in an extracurricular activity, students will enhance their life skills, build teamwork skills, and boost their future success.

Studies show that the root causes of hunger are caused by lack of equitable access to healthy and culturally relevant foods, private and public benefits, and educational and professional opportunities. The Opportunity Bank Scholarship Program was created to address the root causes of hunger specific to educational attainment, work force development and financial literacy. This program will provide access for children to opportunities that can support their development of skill sets needed to thrive in these areas in order to help them break their cycle of food insecurity and poverty.

The program is designed as an ongoing scholarship, customized to fund specific extracurricular activities that build each student's skill sets. Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the organization of the activity the student is participating in. Eligible students will have the opportunity to re-apply for the scholarship annually if student still meets eligibility criteria. The program will use those activities to guide students to build education, career, and life goals and plans. In addition, the program will include financial literacy training to recipients and their families and provide personalized case management by FIND Food Bank Community Health Workers. The program design will also provide research data to study the effectiveness of the program and how to optimize its impact.

Program Overview

Eligibility

- A Middle School or High School student in the Coachella Valley or Hi-Desert
- Monthly Household Gross Income is below 200% of Federal Poverty Level*
- Demonstrates a 2.0 Cumulative GPA or above
- Participating—or plan to participate—in an extracurricular activity**

Program Requirements

Students awarded the Opportunity Bank Scholarship will be required to

- submit a copy of their report card every semester during scholarship year to demonstrate a cumulative 2.0 GPA or above is maintained
- attend a financial literacy training, quarterly. Guardian will be required to attend a separate financial literacy training, quarterly.
- receive case management from a FIND Food Bank Community Health Worker, quarterly or case-by-case basis, with their guardian.
- participate in data collection to study program effectiveness and impact

Application Submission Options

- In person: FIND Food Bank office; 83-775 Citrus Ave, Indio, CA 92201
- By mail: 83-775 Citrus Ave, Indio, CA 92201
- Online: www.FINDFoodBank.org/opportunitybank
- By email: Ahuesca@findfoodbank.org

* Turn to page 4 to check eligibility

**Turn to page 3 to view list of qualifying extracurricular activities for the scholarship

Program Overview

Activities Eligible For the Scholarship

Activities eligible for the scholarship include, but are not limited to,

- **Educational advancement activities**, including: math club, SAT/ACT prep classes, writing club, journalism, language classes, programming classes
- **Sports**, including: baseball, softball, basketball, football, soccer, volleyball, golf, tennis, wrestling, cheerleading, cross country, swimming, track, water polo, lacrosse, hockey, intramural sports
- **Performing Arts**, including: dance, ballet, theater
- **Creative and Fine Arts**, including: art, music, pottery, photography, sewing
- **Other Extracurricular Activities**, including: gardening, farming, auto shop, building and construction, culinary
- **Leadership Programs**, including: leadership camps, workshops, public speaking, public advocacy workshops

Questions? Contact us at

760-775-3663 or programs@findfoodbank.org

INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

The Federal Poverty Guidelines is a measure of income issued every year by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Federal poverty levels are used to determine your eligibility for certain programs and benefits. The 2024 federal poverty level (FPL) income numbers below are used to calculate eligibility for the Opportunity Bank Scholarship Program.

How to Calculate Your Gross Income

1. Determine your Household Size
 - Households can be as small as one person if that person is not a dependent

2. Gather your Monthly Earned Income for Everyone Earning Income in the Household
 - Wages or salaries earned from a job
 - Earnings from self-employment

3. Add your Earned Gross Income to Calculate Household's Monthly Gross Income
4. Use the table below to determine if your Monthly Gross Income is Eligible

MAXIMUM INCOME / MÁXIMO DE INGRESOS		
<i>2024 Federal Poverty Guidelines</i>		
HOUSEHOLD SIZE TAMAÑO DEL HOGAR	MONTHLY GROSS INCOME INGRESOS MENSUALES DEL HOGAR (200% of FPL) / (200% de FPL)	YEARLY GROSS INCOME INGRESOS ANUALES DEL HOGAR (200% of FPL) / (200% de FPL)
1	\$2,510	\$30,120
2	\$3,406	\$40,880
3	\$4,303	\$51,640
4	\$5,200	\$62,400
5	\$6,096	\$73,160
6	\$6,993	\$83,920
7	\$7,890	\$94,680
8	\$8,786	\$105,440
Over 8 people Más de 8 personas	Add \$896 each person Añada \$896 por cada persona	Add \$10,760 each person Añada \$10,760 por cada persona

Scholarship Application

Youth Applicant's Information

Youth Applicant's Full Name: _____ **Date:** _____
Last First MI

Home Address:

Street Address Apartment/Unit #

City State ZIP Code

Is your home address the same as your mailing address?: Yes No

Mailing Address:

Street Address Apartment/Unit #

City State ZIP Code

Phone: _____
Write "N/A" if not applicable

Email: _____
Write "N/A" if not applicable

Birthdate: _____ **Gender :** Male Female Other: _____

Race: *(check off one or more)*

White

Black or African American

Asian

American Indian or Alaskan Native

Pacific Islander

Other: _____

Prefer not to say.

Ethnicity: Hispanic

Non-Hispanic

Prefer not to say.

School Name: _____ **Grade Level:** _____

Cumulative GPA: _____

Youth Applicant's Parent/Guardian Information

Parent / Guardian Full Name: _____
Last First

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Monthly Household Gross Income: \$ _____ Household Size _____

Ages: 0-4 _____ 5-18 _____ 19-64 _____ 65 + _____

Household Expenses

Gas: _____ Light _____ Water _____ Phone _____ Rent/ Mortgage _____

Medical Expenses (\$35) _____ Healthcare _____ Childcare _____ Child Support _____

Property Taxes _____

Additional Information About Youth Applicant

Please answer each question to the best of your knowledge.

Has your family ever received food assistance from FIND Food Bank or any other food ___ Yes ___ No

If yes, please describe below: _____

Briefly describe how you heard about this opportunity: (Ex: FIND Mobile Market, social media, etc.)

Extracurricular Activity

What single extracurricular activity would you like to apply this scholarship to?

Name of Organization: _____

Organization Address: _____

Name of Main Contact: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please be ensure that the information listed above is accurate and most up-to-date. Payment of

List all fees associated with the activity listed on the previous page, their cost, due date, and schedule of payment in the table below?

Fee	Cost	Due Date	Schedule of Payment*
Ex: Registration	\$250	09/15/2024	One-time
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
Total:	_____		

* Ex: one-time payment, monthly, biweekly, etc.

Required Attachments

Attach the following documents to this application. Applications with missing attachments will delay the application process.

- **Most recent report card from school office**
- **Proof of household income**—Must be current (last 4 weeks) and for all household members earning income (Ex: Paychecks, bank statements, unemployment benefits, child support, disability, etc.)
- **Proof of participation—or plans to participate—in an extracurricular activity** (Ex: activity flyer, registration receipt, etc.)

Disclaimer & Signature

By signing my name below, I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and that I am aware of the requirements of the program and what is expected of me.

If this application leads to acceptance into the program, I understand that false or misleading information in my application may result in removal from the program.

Youth Applicant’s Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____