

19. If my child has been recommended for a grant/scholarship, do I still need to send in an application along with the Financial Information Form and narrative?

Yes, there must be a fully completed application for a student to be eligible for an award. The selection committees exercise complete discretion regarding all awards. (See Question 15 for more information.)

20. Who serves on the selection committees?

The selection committees are made up of people involved in the private Christian school community. No school has more than one member on a committee.

21. If a student receives an award but then changes to another Christian school in Arizona, what happens?

The award is personal to the student for tuition. The unused portion would be returned to ACSTO and then would follow the student to the new Christian school working with ACSTO. If the student left Arizona or did not go to another Christian school working with ACSTO, the remaining money would be returned to ACSTO and re-awarded among students at the school in another award process.

22. Why should I donate to ACSTO rather than another school tuition organization?

ACSTO has been operating since 1998. We have helped more than 17,600 students and awarded more than \$77 million in scholarships. We strive to be a leader in serving students in more than 140 schools throughout Arizona. We participate in defending the scholarship tax credit in litigation and are active through the STO association in legislative efforts.

NOTICE

A school tuition organization cannot award, restrict or reserve scholarships solely on the basis of a donor's recommendation. A taxpayer may not claim a tax credit if the taxpayer agrees to swap donations with another taxpayer to benefit either taxpayer's own dependent.

A.R.S. 43-1603 (C)

For our most up-to-date information and list of schools, please visit our website, www.acsto.org.

Schools Associated with ACSTO

Anthem
Cross of Christ / North Valley Christian Academy
Apache Junction
East Valley Christian Academy
Arizona City
Freedom Christian School
Avondale
Cornerstone Kidz
Benson
Grace Christian Academy
Buckeye
Grace Fellowship Academy
Bullhead City
Desert Quest Private School
Camp Verde
Camp Verde United Christian School
Casa Grande
Logos Academy
Chandler
Chandler Christian School
CrossRoads Community School
Montessori Christian Academy
Risen Savior Lutheran School
San Tan Christian Academy
Sheila's Christian Academy
"Minds in Motion"
Tri-City Christian Academy
Valley Christian High School
Cottonwood
Verde Valley Christian School
Flagstaff
Flagstaff Community Christian School
Florence
Florence Baptist Academy
Gilbert
Bios Christian Academy
Christ's Greenfield Lutheran School
Gateway Baptist Academy
Gateway Fellowship Preschool & Kindergarten Center
Gilbert Christian Schools, Inc.
Heritage Christian Academy
Glendale
Arrowhead Christian Academy
Atonement Lutheran School
Glendale Christian Academy
Grace Lutheran School
Harvest Kidz School
Joy Christian School
The Wiser Choice
Word International Christian School
Goodyear
Phoenix Christian Unified Elementary West Campus
Vision Christian Academy
Kingman
Emmanuel Christian Academy of Kingman
Kykotsmovi
Hopi Mission School
Lake Havasu City
Bethany Christian School
Calvary Christian Academy
Guiding Light Christian Partnership, Inc.
Litchfield Park
Trinity Lutheran School
Marana
Sun and Shield Christian Academy
Mesa
Faith Christian School
First Evangelical Lutheran Church Kindergarten
Mesa Christian Academy
Noah's Ark Preschool & Kindergarten
Pilgrim Lutheran School
Redeemer Christian School
Trinity Christian School - Mesa
Trinity Preschool and Kindergarten
Valley Baptist School
Oro Valley
Resurrection Lutheran Child Development Center
Page
Page Christian School
Paradise Valley
Camelback Christian School
Christ Church School, Inc.
Parker
Tree of Life Christian School
Payson
Payson Community Christian School
Peoria
Cross of Glory Lutheran Elementary School
Phoenix
91st Psalm Christian School
All Saints' Episcopal Day School
Arizona Lutheran Academy
Christ Lutheran School
Christ The King Academy
Christ The Redeemer Lutheran School
Covenant Child Care Center

Schools Associated with ACSTO

Phoenix (continued)
Family of Christ Learning Center
Emmaus Lutheran School
Glenview Adventist Academy
Guiding Light Christian School
Grace Garden Christian Preschool
Holy Trinity Academy
International Christian Academy Online LLC
Legacy Classical Christian Academy
North Phoenix Baptist Kindergarten
Northwest Christian School
Paradise for Tots Christian Kindergarten
Paradise Valley Christian Preparatory
Parkway Children's School of Excellence
Pentecostal of Phoenix Christian Academy
Phoenix Christian School K-8
Phoenix Christian Unified Schools
Saint Augustine's Academy
Scottsdale Christian Academy
South Mountain Village Christian School
Southwest Christian School
Valley Classical Christian Academy
Valley Lutheran High School
Westminster Academy
Prescott
Christian Academy of Prescott
Trinity Christian School
Queen Creek
Calvary Christian School
Freedom Christian Academy
Rock Point
Navajo Lutheran Mission School
Safford
Safford Christian Academy
Sahuarita
Alfarero Baptist Schools
Sahuarita Christian Academy
Scottsdale
Chaparral Christian Preschool & Kindergarten
New Covenant Child Development Center
Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran School
Thunderbird Christian Academy
Show Low
American Indian Christian School
Mountain Christian School
Sierra Vista
First Baptist Christian Academy
Veritas Christian Community School
Sonoita
Harvest Christian Academy
Sun Valley
Sun Valley Indian School
Surprise
Palms Christian School
Tempe
Bethany Christian School
Bethany Learning Center
Emmanuel Lutheran School
Gethsemane Lutheran School
Grace Community Christian School
Joyful Beginnings Academy
Tucson
Beautiful Savior Academy
Calvary Chapel Christian School
Carden Christian Academy Central
Casas Christian School
Chapel In The Hills Preschool & Elementary
Cornerstone Christian Academy
Desert Christian Schools
Faith Christian Academy
Faith Community Academy
Faith Lutheran School
Family Life Academy
Firm Foundations Christian School
First Southern Christian School
Fountain of Life Lutheran School
Lamad Preparatory Academy
Lamb's Gate Christian School
Maranatha Christian Academy
Mission View Academy
Northminster Christian School
New Life Christian Academy
Pusch Ridge Christian Academy
Redeemer Lutheran School
River of Life Christian School
St. Andrews Preschool & Kindergarten
Tanque Verde Lutheran Preschool & Kindergarten
Veritas Academy of Tucson
Wickenburg
Wickenburg Christian Academy, Inc.
Willcox
Joanne Todd Christian School
Yuma
Southwestern Christian School

ACSTO

ARIZONA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
TUITION ORGANIZATION, INC.

Frequently Asked Questions
And Answers to Them
Regarding the Arizona Private School
Tuition Tax Credit Law
And ACSTO



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1. (NEW!) When can I donate?

A person may donate **prior to filing taxes but no later than April 15** of the year following the tax year for which the donor wishes to take the tax credit. (Donations must be postmarked or entered online before midnight, April 15, per tax credit law.)

For donations made between January 1 and April 15, it is up to the donor to determine whether to claim the tax credit for the previous or current year. Donations made between April 16 and December 31 must be claimed in the tax year of the donation.

2. How can I donate?

By Check: Fill out a donor card and mail it to us with your check.

By Credit Card: (1) Online, via our secure website; (2) by phone; or (3) by filling out a donor card with your credit card information and mailing or faxing it to us.

3. How much can I donate?

For 2010 and 2011, the maximum amount you can receive a tax credit for is \$1000 for a couple filing jointly and \$500 for a single filer.

Starting in 2011, the maximum tax credit amount will increase each year by the percentage that the Metropolitan Phoenix Consumer Price Index has increased for the preceding year.

We will publish the new tax credit amount on our website each year as soon as the information is published by the ADOR.

4. Will I receive a receipt for my donation?

Starting in 2011, we will send receipts out weekly, except for donations made in December. We will send a comprehensive receipt statement for this calendar year by January 31 of the following year. If you need a receipt immediately, please contact ACSTO.

5. Do we get the entire donation as a state income tax credit if we file a joint return?

Yes, if your state income tax liability was that much or more, and your donation is within the tax credit limit, you can use it for that year's taxes. Any excess can be carried forward and used to offset state income taxes for up to five years.

6. How much of my donation goes for grant/scholarships and how much to ACSTO for administration?

The law requires that 90% go for grant/scholarships. However, ACSTO awards 92% of all donations identifying a school or recommending a student at a particular school. The ACSTO selection committees retain complete discretion regarding all awards.

7. May we make the \$400 public school extra-curricular activities donation in addition to our donation to ACSTO and claim them both as tax credits?

Yes, but public school donations are made directly to the public school, not to ACSTO. These donations are due by December 31.

8. Which Arizona state income tax forms do I use?

Forms 301 and 323. They are available from the Arizona Department of Revenue, www.azdor.gov, or from our website: www.acsto.org.

9. Is our donation also eligible for a federal income tax deduction?

We are a federally tax exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization. For federal tax purposes, the deduction must be claimed for the tax year in which the donation was made; the new April 15 deadline does not apply. You should consult your tax adviser for specific tax advice concerning deductibility for you.

10. May we recommend our grandchild for a grant/scholarship?

Yes, you may recommend anyone who is not your child or dependent. The selection committees retain complete discretion regarding all awards.

11. May we make an agreement to recommend someone else's child in exchange for their recommending our child ("swapping")?

No, the law states, "A taxpayer may not claim a tax credit if the taxpayer agrees to swap donations with another taxpayer to benefit either taxpayer's own dependent." ACSTO has always discouraged this practice; now the law specifically states the prohibition.

12. May we identify a particular Christian school?

Yes, donations identifying a school will be awarded among applicants from that school. The selection committees make those decisions.

13. May a student receive funds from more than one student tuition organization?

Yes, nothing would prevent that. However, the school may not keep more than the tuition cost of educating your child for the current school year. Any award in excess of tuition would be considered a multi-year scholarship.

14. Are grant/scholarship awards made to individual students or to families?

Awards are only given to individual students and cannot be applied to families. These awards are non-transferable. An award cannot be transferred to a different child, even within the same family.

15. If I want to apply for a tuition grant/scholarship for my child, what is the process?

Complete our application and provide the information requested. Call or visit our website if you need an application. The Financial Information Form and parent narrative are required. Letters of recommendation are optional.

Please Note: If your child is not currently attending the school named on his/her application, or has not begun the enrollment process, ACSTO cannot make an award.

16. (NEW! Date Changes Below!) What are the ACSTO deadlines for donations and applications, and what distributions do the applications cover?

We have 3 Grant/Scholarship distributions.

Summer: Applications are due May 31, and awards are made in late June. These applications are also considered during the following fall and spring distributions.

Fall: Applications are due by September 30, and awards are made in late October. These applications are also considered during the following spring distribution.

Spring: Applications are due by February 28, and awards are made in late March.

All applications expire every year on March 31, regardless of when they are received.

Donation Due Dates: Please be advised that we have removed donation due dates because we always process as many donations as possible for each award cycle.

17. I want to apply for a grant/scholarship for my student; do you require financial information?

Yes, applicants are required to submit a Financial Information Form, and a formula will be applied to assist the selection committees in evaluating the applicant's financial circumstances. The financial information is never disclosed to anyone but our staff.

18. What factors are considered in making the grant/scholarship awards?

There are three: (1) the narrative provided by the parents; (2) the financial circumstances of the student's family; (3) recommendations concerning the student.