

Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood Early Learning Scholarships available

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Up to 100 Early Childhood Education Scholarships of up to \$11,000 each year are still available for qualifying families within Saint Paul's Promise Neighborhood.

The scholarships, which are expected to average about \$8,000 per year, provide families with financial support to help pay for high-quality early childhood education for 3- and 4-year-old children. Qualifying families will receive help paying for and choosing a Parent Aware quality-rated early childhood education program.

The scholarships are available to families who live within the geographic boundaries of the Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood – a 250-block area between Pierce Butler Route and Selby Avenue, Rice Street and Lexington Parkway – and meet income and other criteria. Families must have an income below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, which is slightly more than \$46,000 for a family of four.

Applications are distributed by the organization Think Small. Interested families should call Think Small at 651-641-6604 for an application.

Children who participate in high-quality early childhood education are more likely to be ready for kindergarten. Over the years, research has shown that a child's chances for success are significantly increased when high-quality early childhood education is a factor.

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