

## Financial Aid, Workshop and Fundraising

### Financial Aid Packet Content

- Financial Aid information letter
- Workshop information letter
- Fundraising information letter
- Financial Aid application

### Financial Aid Packet Instructions

- Please read all information regarding financial aid, workshop and fundraising
- Complete financial aid application
- Return completed financial aid application to Rite of Passage Journeys ASAP
- We will review the completed financial aid application and draft a proposed financial aid agreement
- We will contact you regarding the proposed financial aid agreement
- We will send you a financial aid agreement to sign once the terms of the agreement are finalized
- Please sign the agreement and return to Rite of Passage Journeys
- Once we receive the signed financial aid agreement, the participant's spot in the program is reserved

## Financial Aid at Rite of Passage Journeys

**Journeys is strongly committed to making our programs available to everyone, regardless of their financial situation.**

Our approach to providing scholarships to help make our programs possible is unique. We work closely with families and individuals seeking financial assistance to determine what is within their means, and develop a comprehensive tuition plan. Depending on the unique situation of the family or individual, this plan may include:

- **We ask families or individuals to stretch financially to make the program possible**, because we recognize that people value things more if they pay for them, and because we operate on a tight budget and want to ensure that those we provide financial assistance to share in the stretch. A stretch might be 75% of the cost, or it might be a small contribution. We also support **payment plans**, where a family may pay tuition over a period of months beyond the completion of the program.
- **For local individuals and families we provide “workshop” opportunities** where we provide partial scholarship in exchange for project work preparing for or cleaning up from the trip. We’ve found that this can be a great way for participants to learn more about the program, spend more time thinking about what they’re hoping to gain from it, and consequently have a more meaningful experience. Please see the workshop policy section of this letter for more information.
- **We provide support for families and individuals who raise tuition funds in their home communities**, either through pledges, babysitting, mowing lawns, etc. We find that this can be a great way to rally a whole community around what a young boy or girl is doing, investing them in the program and providing them with a whole group of folks who are interested and invested in the stories upon their return. Please see fundraising letter for more information.
- **Last, we offer scholarships to supplement the remainder of the program tuition.** On average, the purely scholarship portion of the tuition cost is about half of the tuition; sometimes it will be just a small supplement. Sometimes the scholarships cover almost the whole cost, with a little bit in workshop or community funds.

**To apply for financial assistance, please complete and submit to our office a financial aid form.** The financial aid form will help give us a detailed financial picture of the individual or family: including, income, expenses, and unique challenges. Upon receipt of the financial aid form, we will review the request and make contact to develop a plan to make program participation possible.

## Workshop Policy

*Workshops* are available to a limited number of participants each summer. Journeys' is committed to making our programs accessible to everyone no matter what their financial situation is. Workshop is a way for you to become invested in the program you are about to participate in by completing jobs around the program . This is also a way to partially supplement the tuition. To apply, please mark the Workshop box on the financial aid form indicating that you are interested in workshop as an option for financial assistance. Also, in the personal statement section of the financial aid form, please explain why it is important for you to attend.

- Work for the workshop includes assisting with the preparation of the base camp and cleaning and packing camping supplies and food for the summer programs. We designate a number of workdays in May and June in which the work can be completed. Often we are able to make individual arrangements for other work, especially for those who live at a distance.
- For youth: We expect at least one adult to work with each youth. This could be a parent, guardian, older sibling (over 20), another relative or friend.
- Credit for the work is credited at \$10 per person per hour. The maximum workshop is \$200.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (425) 485-7396.

## Fundraising for Your Tuition

We are very excited that you have decided to take on this Journey! The program will be hard work but extremely rewarding. We at Journeys love to involve our community in activities around our programs, work parties, sweat lodges and much more. We have found that our community is wonderfully supportive of Journeys! Because of our experiences with our community, one of the things we like to suggest to participants is getting your community involved and invested in you.

- Often, participants raise additional funds through the help of friends, relatives or local organizations such as the participant's church. Sometimes people make pledges, perhaps to match funds earned through the workshop or earned by the participant in other ways, or just for completing the trip.

Start your journey right now:

List 5 people you know who you can ask for pledges

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

- Other ideas for fundraising are odd jobs, baby sitting for your neighborhood families, bake sale, car wash, mow lawns..... The possibilities of fundraising are endless!

List 3 jobs you can do to raise money for your trip

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Also, we can provide you with some of our beautiful brochures to show people what you will be doing on your journey. The brochure is filled with colorful pictures from past trips and a description of the trip you will be embarking on.

**A story from Journeys' Executive Director, Darcy Ottey:** *I was a scholarship participant with Journeys, when I was 13. I remember reading a flier about the program and thinking, "I just have to do this!" But it was way beyond the current financial means of my family. After working with Journeys to work out a plan, I received a significant scholarship, and I babysat, cleaned houses, asked family and friends to sponsor me, and generally cobbled together the \$750 not covered by the scholarship in order to make it happen. I remember holding the money in my hands, and taking it on the first day of the program to pay the costs, and feeling so proud of what I'd accomplished, and this is before the trip even began!*



## FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION

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Participant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Program Applying for \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Day ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Eve ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Occupation, Employer or School \_\_\_\_\_ Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Children in Household \_\_\_\_\_ Other Dependents Living in Household \_\_\_\_\_

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Estimate of Need:

A) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Program Tuition

B) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Parent/Guardian Can Provide

C) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Participant Can Provide

E) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount from Other Sources

F) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Subtotal

G) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Workshop (Optional)

      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Amount I Need (Financial Aid)

H) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

- Workshops are available at \$10.00 per hour (Youth and Adults are expected to work together. Maximum of \$200 earned Workshop credit).
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Income Information:

Are you a single or double income household?     \_\_\_ Single     \_\_\_ Double

<b>MONTHLY INCOME</b>	<b>PARENT/GUARDIAN #1</b>	<b>PARENT/GUARDIAN #2</b>
Salary Before Taxes		
Child Support		
Other Income		
<b>TOTAL MONTHLY INCOME</b>		

<b>MONTHLY EXPENSES</b>	<b>PARENT/GUARDIAN #1</b>	<b>PARENT/GUARDIAN #2</b>
Rent/Mortgage/Living Expenses		
School/Bank Loans/Medical Bills		
Other Monthly Expenses		
<b>TOTAL MONTHLY EXPENSES</b>		

\*If the participant is a ward of the state, please list all possible sources of funding toward the participant's tuition, and include a letter from their state caseworker (legal guardian) verifying their status. All other forms must be signed by the legal guardian.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

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Please briefly describe why you are applying for assistance, including any unusual expenses or circumstances, and any information that did not fit on this form, but you feel we should know.

**SIGNATURE REQUIRED**

I (we) declare that the information provided is true and complete.

Parent/Guardian #1 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian #2 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed Financial Aid Form to :

Rite of Passage Journeys  
22401 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE  
Bothell, WA 98021