

RITE of PASSAGE JOURNEYS
Financial Aid and Fundraising

Financial Aid Packet Content

- Financial Aid Information Letter
- Fundraising Information Letter
- Financial Aid Application

Financial Aid Packet Instructions

- Please read all information regarding financial aid and fundraising
- Complete financial aid application
- Return completed financial aid application to Rite of Passage Journeys by April 1** to insure that your application is considered during the first round of scholarship awarding
- We will review the completed financial aid application and make a financial aid offer to you
- We will contact you regarding the proposed financial aid agreement in early April
- Upon receiving this signed financial aid form, the participant's spot in the program is reserved until an offer is made. At that point, a deposit will be due to continue reserving that spot.

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.
- **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. Our scholarships rarely cover the entire cost of a program.

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 your financial aid form, we will review the request and make contact to develop a plan to make program participation possible.

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

Participant's Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Program Applying for _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Phone Day () _____ Eve () _____

Email _____

Address _____

Parent/Guardian Occupation, Employer or School _____ Phone () _____

Number of Children in Household _____ Other Dependants Living in Household _____

Estimate of Need:

A) \$ _____ Program Tuition

B) \$ _____ Amount Parent/Guardian Can Provide

C) \$ _____ Amount Participant Can Provide

D) \$ _____ Amount from Other Sources

E) \$ _____ Subtotal

F) \$ _____ Additional Amount I Need (Financial Aid)

Income Information:

Are you a single or double income household? ___ Single ___ Double

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

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

*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

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
PO Box 27559
Seattle, WA 98165