



## 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 person is doing, investing them in the program and providing them with a whole group of folks who are interested in the stories upon their return. Please see the 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 this Journey! It will be hard work but extremely rewarding, and even more rewarding if your friends, family, and community are involved and invested in your experience. Here is a chance for you to think about some ways you can make that happen.

- 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 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 include odd jobs, baby-sitting, bake sale, car wash, lawn mowing..... 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 postcards to show people what you will be doing on your journey. Let us know if you’d like us to send you some!

**A story from Journeys’ former 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 ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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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 & EXPENSES

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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 via either:

Mail: Rite of Passage Journeys, PO Box 27559, Seattle, WA, 98165

Email: [info@riteofpassagejourneys.org](mailto:info@riteofpassagejourneys.org)

Fax: 425-491-7266