

Earn Money for School Fees the Scrip Way

2013/14 School Year

What is “scrip”? *The dictionary defines scrip as paper currency or tokens, for which the user is entitled to something.* For our purposes, scrip is exchanging your cash for the same face value in easily usable gift cards.

Why use scrip? Through non-profit scrip centers, businesses use the sale of gift cards to give charitable donations; our partnership with the Gresham-Barlow Education Foundation allows access to those donations. That money can then be used towards almost any school activity.

How does your student benefit? Businesses provide varying percentages for their donation; your family receives 40% of that donation. (e.g., Fred Meyer gives 5%; on a \$100 purchase, that makes \$5 the total donation. A student would receive \$2 of that, held in reserve.) The remaining \$3 is used by the Foundation for school grants and operation of the scrip program. **Profit can be used by any student or school program/activity, and doesn't expire.**

Where and When are orders placed? Leave orders in the main office by 2:30 on Mondays; **SEE CALENDAR FOR EXACT DATES.** Staff is also able to order scrip. Filled orders will be ready Friday morning; if you need to make arrangements to pickup at my home after school hours, let me know. Orders are prepaid; we accept cash, check, or credit card. *Credit card orders require a separate one-time authorization.*

Who do you contact for more information? Kris Howatt is the scrip coordinator for Clear Creek and Gresham High School. She can be reached at 503-669-9255 or email at Kris.Howatt@gmail.com. A new form will be sent home with your filled order; additional forms are available in the office or on-line at ccweb.gresham.k12.or.us, under the Parent Tab “Scrip”. Look for us on Facebook; [Gift Card Fundraising – scrip](#).



Purchase of scrip is entirely optional.

If 100 families participated regularly in scrip gift cards purchases, students could collectively raise \$10,000–\$12,000 each year, *without buying anything that they don't already plan to purchase.* More than 200 businesses are on the order form, both locally and nationally. If you did this amount, you would have at least \$10–\$20/month in scrip profit – purchase more, get friends and family involved, and your monthly profit will go up: Sample Shopping

Groceries (Fred Meyer, Albertson's, Safeway)	\$200/month
Gasoline (Fred Meyer, Albertson's, Safeway)	\$100/month
Dining out (fast food, casual)	\$50/month
Movie/Video Rental/Books	\$40/month
Clothing (Fred Meyer, Old Navy, K-Mart)	\$25/month
Health & Beauty (Walgreens, Wal-Mart)	\$25/month
Home Repair/Improvement (Lowe's/Home Depot)	\$25/month

These are a few of the expenses recently paid for with scrip reserves: yearbooks, sports fees, additional elective class fees, band/choir activity fees.

Can cards be reloaded at the store? No, if you reload the gift cards at the store the school does not have a record of the purchase. We have some reloads available thru the ordering process; the most popular is Papa John's and Starbucks.

Can they be used with coupons and discounts? Are they only good locally? In most cases you can use the gift cards with other discounts/coupons. If you receive a bulk discount or educator's discount, inquire first if you can use gift cards or paper certificates. Take advantage of special promotion nights as fund raisers, and use scrip to supplement your activity; previously, events have been held at LaCarreta, Baja Fresh, Cold Stone Creamery, and Macy's. Cards that are for a national chain (e.g., Barnes&Nobles, iTunes, Starbucks) can be used anywhere in the United States, and many can be used for on-line transactions.

My company gives out gift cards as bonuses; can you handle large orders? Absolutely! More and more companies use gift cards at holiday times, or for other incentive awards.

Are cards refundable/returnable? Cards are prepaid and ordered by request; they cannot be returned for refund. Please order carefully.

Can they be used to pay a store credit card? The only one that allows in-store payment on a store-issued credit card is Kohl's.

Do the gift cards expire? Cards purchased after January 2008 do not have an expiration date. Nor can they have "service or non-use" fees deducted from the outstanding balance of the card. The term "gift card" does not include prepaid telephone calling cards. The two exceptions are where a gift card or certificate has printed on the card in at least 10-point type EXPIRATION DATE, and prepaid Visa-type cards.

Why isn't "XYZ" store on the list? Most of the charitable/community support decisions for a business are made at a corporate headquarter level. Therefore, not all businesses in our area are part of a non-profit scrip program; they may have other ways that they support local schools and communities.

Do you track 'e-scrip' purchases? The e-scrip program is separate from the gift card purchase program. E-scrip is an on-line registration program of customer reward cards and credit cards. If you are doing e-scrip through Safeway, purchase scrip gift cards to maximize your school profit.

What if I have trouble using a card? If you are ever in a store and the card is not registering properly, start by calling the toll-free number on the reverse of the gift card, and verifying the balance. Make sure when you use the card at a merchant, they run it as a gift card, or cash, not as a debit or credit transaction. With most gas cards, they need to run the card prior to dispensing gas. In very rare cases, a magnet (or close proximity to a cell phone) can affect the readability of the card strip. If that is the case, the store can usually enter the card numbers manually. In the very, very rare case that a card is not active, keep the card, and contact me.