



## Frequently Asked Questions

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**Q: *Who is the Apogee Scholarship Fund?***

**A:** Apogee Scholarship Fund is a state registered SSO (Student Scholarship Organization) as well as a 501c3 non-profit organization whose primary functions are to facilitate the process of distributing tax credits in exchange for donations and to disburse those funds for private school tuition scholarships.

**Q: *How do I participate in the program?***

**A:** It's easy. All you have to do is complete the Apogee Donation Form, Sign Page 2 of Form IT-QEE-TP1, write a check to "Apogee Scholarship Fund" and Apogee will take care of the rest.

**Q: *Is there a limit to how much I can give each year?***

**A:** Yes, the amount you can give is limited by your tax filing status

- Married Filing Jointly: Maximum of \$2,500
- Individual Filer: Maximum of \$1,000
- Married Filing Separately: Maximum of \$1,250
- S-corps, LLC's: Limited to same maximums as joint filers and individual filers
- C-Corporation: Up to 75% of GA tax liability

**Q: *How do I know what my GA tax liability is?***

**A:** Your GA tax liability is typically 6% of your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI). You can also look at Line 18 of your GA tax return (Form 500) to learn your GA tax liability.

**Q: *Why should I give now?***

**A:** The State has placed a yearly cap on the amount of credit available at \$50 million. That means that every school, tax payer, and corporation in GA is drawing from the same exact pool of credits. Once the funds are used up, you will have to wait until next year to participate in the program. Also, once funds are deposited, they are immediately available to help families seeking an educational choice for their children.



**Q: *Can I reduce my quarterly estimated tax payments by the amount I donate?***

**A:** Yes. Your estimated payments are only an estimate of your total tax liability divided into four payments. This is a great opportunity to write the check to support education instead of paying that portion of estimated taxes.

**Q: *What happens if my donation exceeds my tax liability?***

**A:** The tax credit is a “non-refundable” credit. What that means is that you cannot receive a refund for any more than your GA tax liability. Any excess credit beyond your tax liability can be carried forward for up to 5 years.

**Q: *What happens when I mail my donation package and check to ASF (Apogee Scholarship Fund)?***

**A:** ASF immediately submits your TP1 form to the State for approval. We hold your check until confirmation of approval is obtained. Although the State will mail you a copy of your approved TP1 form, ASF will also receive a digital copy of your approved form. Once this is received, Apogee will deposit your check. Immediately upon deposit, ASF will mail you a tax credit receipt for your donation.

**Q: *Why should I send my TP1 form to ASF instead of directly to the DOR?***

**A:** You are welcome to send your TP1 form directly to the State; however, ASF always recommends that you send your form to us for processing. ASF has developed efficient and effective processes to speed up the turn-around time from submittal to approval significantly. With ASF managing the process, we are able to ensure your paperwork is properly completed and that your paperwork is moving through the process in a timely manner. We have processed thousands of applications with the DOR and have found this to be the very best method of ensuring that applicants get through the approval process in a timely manner.



**Q: *Do I have to include my check with my donation package when mailing to ASF?***

A: No. While it not necessary, ASF encourages donors to send their check in advance for several reasons.

- The tax credit expires 30 days from the stamped date of approval. ASF must receive a check within 30 days of approval in order to process the donation.
- ASF cannot deposit your donation check without first receiving confirmation of approval from the DOR.
- ASF typically receives approval within 5 business days of submitting the DOR, so by sending the check in advance, your contribution is made available for scholarships as quickly as possible.
- It removes a cumbersome step out of the process. Since the process can be a bit cumbersome, sending the check with your paperwork makes it a 1 step process for you.

**Q: *If I chose to submit my TP1 form directly to the DOR for approval, how do I notify ASF of my approval and what is my next step?***

A: Mail ASF a copy of your approved TP1 form, along with your check written out to “Apogee Scholarship Fund”. If you have a certain school you would like to direct your donation to, please write the school(s) in the memo line of your check.

**Q: *Can I split my gift between 2 or more schools?***

A: Yes. Please let us know the schools you would like to direct your donation to and the amount each school should receive and we will be more than happy to direct your funds accordingly.

**Q: *What happens if I give a donation to ASF but I find out that my school is working with another SSO?***

A: We will be happy to process your donation as any other and will pass the full balance of the funds to the correct SSO.



**Q: *Who is Eligible to receive a scholarship?***

**A:** The State has defined parameters as to who is eligible to receive an SSO scholarship.

- Children eligible to enroll in a GA qualified (public) school Pre-K or Kindergarten program.
- Students who are currently enrolled at GA public school. ASF policy requires that a student must have attended at least 30 days of public school in order to be considered eligible. \* ASF partner schools reserve the right to enforce stricter policies.
- Home School students, KIPP School students, Charter School students

**Q: *What is ASF's Tax ID Number?***

**A:** FEIN: 26-2693572

**Q: *Is this donation a charitable deduction on my Federal return in addition to the credit?***

**A:** Yes. As we are a 501c3, you are eligible to receive a Federal Charitable Deduction for the amount of your contribution. The law does require that you increase your State income by the amount of your Charitable Deduction on your Federal Return (donation amount).

**Q: *Can Apogee help me understand how this credit will affect my specific tax situation?***

**A:** Yes. ASF is well versed in the specifics of how this credit affects most tax scenarios and is happy to offer guidance in how this credit related to your specific tax situation. Of course, as always, please consult your tax advisor as they will have the best understanding of your specific tax situation.

**Q: *How do I claim the credit at tax time?***

**A:** ASF will mail you a document in the new year explaining how to claim your tax credit. For more information about claiming your credit, you can also visit us our website. Go to the Relevant Docs and Links section. In it, you will find everything you will need to file your GA return electronically or manually. Please consult your tax advisor for further information about your specific tax scenario.



**Q: *How do I apply for an SSO scholarship?***

**A:** ASF works closely with its partner schools in awarding SSO scholarships. Please contact your school's admissions office for more information.

**Q: *Can I direct my contribution to help a specific student?***

**A:** While the law does allow for donors to direct their contributions to an individual, ASF does not accept donations specifically requesting an individual as a recipient. Donors would lose their ability to receive a charitable contribution, resulting in making the contribution much more costly. ASF feels that this program was intended to help children who otherwise would not have the opportunity to attend the school of their choice. Allowing donors to direct their donations to specific individuals would limit the availability of funds for children not as fortunate to have the network to support their tuition. Additionally, many of our partner schools restrict their SSO scholarships to applicants with financial need. The concept of applicants receiving scholarship awards based on who designated a donation to them does not mesh well with a scholarship award.