



**Take Stock in Children (TSIC) Income Eligibility Guidelines July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023**

Applicants will be required to provide a copy of **their most recent 1040 Tax Return form** and their household annual income must qualify for one of the options in the chart below:

<b>HOUSEHOLD SIZE</b>	<b>Maximum Annual Household Income for Students Currently Receiving Free/Reduced Lunch*</b>	<b>Maximum Annual Household Income for Students Meeting Alachua HUD Income Guidelines</b>
1	\$25,142	\$28,700
2	\$33,874	\$32,800
3	\$42,606	\$36,900
4	\$51,338	\$40,950
5	\$60,070	\$44,250
6	\$68,802	\$47,550
7	\$77,534	\$50,800
8	\$86,266	\$54,100
For each additional family member, add	8,732	N/A

\*If qualifying under Free/Reduced Lunch income level, proof of current receipt of free/reduced lunch services must be provided.

**Applicants may also be eligible if student is a current recipient of one of the following:**

- 1) SNAP
- 2) TANF
- 3) HUD
- 4) Medicaid
- 5) Currently in Foster Care or certified homeless

**Note: The student who is applying to be a part of the Take Stock in Children program MUST be listed as a dependent on all income verification documents submit with their application. If the student applying is not listed and the household income on the document, then it CANNOT be used to verify the student's eligibly.**

**Additional information is continued on the next page.**

**The following documentation IS NOT acceptable to verify eligibility for TSIC:**

- a) **W-2s/ Social Security Statement alone** – May not reflect all income and does not verify that it is same household as student.
- b) **Disability** – May not reflect all income for household and does not verify that it is same household as student.
- c) **Statement of non-filing of taxes through IRS** – Does not indicate that income was below the need to file, just verifies that they did not file.
- d) **The free/reduced lunch screen** in the School District's student profile program (i.e., FOCUS).
- e) **Direct Certification letter from State of Florida** – The letter may not be issued by all school or districts where FRL is available to all students/schools. Students who qualify to receive Direct Certification from the state (i.e.- SNAP/TANF recipients, Foster Care or Homeless youth) should be able to prove eligibility for TSIC as outlined above.

**Determining TSIC Eligibility through 1040 Tax Return**

- The student applicant must be claimed as a dependent on the tax return to verify income eligibility.
- The total number of dependents listed on the tax return provided should be used to verify income eligibility.

**Example of the 1040 Tax Return:**

The image shows a 2021 U.S. Individual Income Tax Return (Form 1040) with several red annotations. A red box highlights the 'Dependents' table, with an arrow pointing to the 'First name' column. Another red box highlights 'Line 9' (Total Income) in the tax calculation section. A third red box highlights the 'Filing Status' section, with an arrow pointing to the 'Single' option.

Find Student applicant's name on the tax return. Calculate total number of dependents

Find total family income on Line 9.

## **Join us for our Take Stock in Children Application Review and Interest Meeting!**

At this meeting we will cover information about the Take Stock program, introduce our staff, and answer any questions you may have.

The event will take place November 15, 2022 from 5:30-6:30PM on Zoom. You can sign up at the link below or by scanning the QR code.

<https://forms.gle/hWY1kw5aa41a5dZu6>

We hope to see you there!





September 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Your child is eligible to apply to be a part of Take Stock in Children (TSIC) through The Education Foundation of Alachua County. **This is a great opportunity for your child to be academically supported throughout high school and receive a two-year tuition-based college scholarship.**

Take Stock in Children is a statewide strategy for overcoming poverty by providing hope for a better future and turning dreams into reality. Children are usually selected in late middle/early high school and given a volunteer mentor to meet with them once a week throughout the school year. Upon high school graduation, if the students maintain good behavior, stay drug and crime free, and meet with their mentor regularly, they receive a 2-year college scholarship.

To be considered for TSIC, your child must have a 2.5 grade point average and be financially eligible (see attached [Income Eligibility Guidelines](#)).

Take Stock in Children offers mentoring, case management, college readiness workshops and the promise of a college scholarship to help each student get a good education and prepare them to go to college. The goal is that students will graduate from high school, then go on to college, and enter the work force with higher earning potential. Take Stock in Children scholars state-wide have a 96% high school graduation rate, and 96% of our scholars enroll in college.

We have three individuals focused on the success of each of our Take Stock scholars. Each student is paired with a trained volunteer mentor who meets with them weekly during their lunch period at school. We also have three College Success Coaches on our staff who are responsible for tracking the progress of each student, monitoring their grades, attendance, and behavior. In addition, we partner with every public middle and high school in the county -- each school assigns someone on their staff (usually a guidance counselor) to serve as the Take Stock School Coordinator. This coordinator will work closely with College Success Coaches to identify any problems or challenges that your child is facing. We are there to support your child. We are there to cheer them on, telling them repeatedly that we believe in them. When necessary, we are also there to intervene and advocate on their behalf to help them stay on the course to graduation.

Please complete the enclosed application and attach a copy of your 2021 or most recent federal income tax return (form 1040) and a copy of your most recent one month's pay stub as well as other proof of income eligibility (i.e. Child Support, Social Security, SSI, Alimony). **Proof of income eligibility MUST be included with your application in order to be eligible for the Take Stock in Children program. Also, every section of the application must be completed.** Completed applications should be returned to the Take Stock in Children School Coordinator at your child's school (listed below) **NO LATER THAN December 2, 2022.**

Sincerely,

Alayna Reddick  
Student Services Coordinator  
The Education Foundation of Alachua County  
Phone: (352) 955-7250 ext. 6417  
Email: reddickal@gm.sbac.edu

TSIC School Coordinator's Name: <hr/> School Name: <hr/>
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## **Application Instructions**

Attached is an application for the Take Stock in Children scholarship program. The information in this application will be used to determine your child's eligibility for Take Stock in Children. It will also help us determine if the program is right for him/her. Please answer the questions honestly and thoroughly. Your information will remain confidential and will only be seen by the student selection committee, program staff, and limited school staff.

Please complete the application using the following guidelines:

- Sections A-D and F-G should be completed by the parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Sections E and H should be completed by the student.
- The end of Section F should be signed by both the parent and student.

**Once you and your child have completed and signed the application, please attach a copy of your 2021 or most recent Federal Income Tax Return and either a copy of your Free or Reduce lunch form or a H.U.D. (Housing and Urban Development) Documentation, Medicaid Recipient Documentation or SNAP/TANF Recipient Documentation.**

**The deadline for returning this completed application to your student's school coordinator is December 2, 2022.**

Please direct any questions regarding this application to Take Stock in Children, [reddickal@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:reddickal@gm.sbac.edu).

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **When is the application due?**

The Application is no later than **December 2, 2022, but can be submitted earlier.**

#### **Where do I turn in the application?**

Completed applications should be returned to the Take Stock in Children School Coordinator at your child's school or to the Take Stock office at 2802 NE 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32641.

#### **How are the students selected?**

Completed applications are reviewed by a selection committee and ranked according to grades, behavior, attendance, letters of recommendation, student's 2022 Quarter 1 report card and other factors. From those rankings, students are then chosen to be interviewed for the program. Final selections will be made after interviews occur.

#### **When will I know if my child has been selected?**

Students will be notified as to whether or not they have been selected for an interview by mid-January. Interviews will take place by early February and final acceptance decisions will be made in mid-February.



## 2022-2023 Student Application

### DIRECTIONS FOR APPLICATIONS AND PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

**Student must attend a Florida Public School or Florida Public School of Choice (Florida Virtual, Local Florida Public School District Virtual, or Florida Public Charter School.)**

**Parent(s)/Guardian must submit the most recent, completed taxes.**

**All sections of the application must be completed.**

**Take Stock in Children** program participants receive:

- **A Scholarship**

A Florida Prepaid PROJECT STARS College Scholarship, which can be used at any **Florida public** university, college, or state vocational/technical college in **Florida**.

- **A Mentor**

A volunteer mentor who will meet with each student, with cooperation from the school and parent(s), to assist and encourage students to achieve and reach their full potential.

- **A College Success Coach**

Local Take Stock in Children staff will help design a college success plan and guide each student through middle and high school transition and into to College.

**Date application is due:** December 2, 2022

**Please contact** Alayna Reddick **at (telephone/email)** reddickal@gm.sbac.edu  
**if you have any questions about this application.**

### EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

Take Stock in Children is an equal opportunity organization and complies with all applicable federal, state, and local non-discrimination laws. Take Stock in Children strictly prohibits and does not tolerate discrimination against students, mentors, applicants, or any other covered persons because of race, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, ethnicity, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender (including gender nonconformity and gender identity), marital status, age, physical or mental disability, citizenship, past, current, or prospective service in the uniformed services, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal, state, or local law. All Take Stock in Children employees, other workers, and representatives are prohibited from engaging in unlawful discrimination. Take Stock in Children will reasonably accommodate qualified individuals with a disability as required by law. Take Stock in Children will also, where appropriate, provide reasonable accommodations for an individual's religious beliefs or practices. Finally, no one will be subject to, and Take Stock in Children prohibits, any form of discipline, reprisal, intimidation, or retaliation for good faith reports or complaints of incidents of discrimination of any kind, pursuing any discrimination claim, or cooperating in related investigations.

**Take Stock in Children Application**

**ALL sections of application must be completed AND ALL requested documents submitted for student applicant to be considered for acceptance into the Take Stock in Children program.**

**SECTION A: Student Identification Information**

Student ID # \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # **(Mandatory)** \_\_\_\_\_  
(First, Last, MI)

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Student Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Student E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street)

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Check if Student Mailing Address is same as home address listed above. If not, enter Mailing Address below:

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. # \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street)

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**How do you (the student) identify?**

Gender:  Female  Male  Gender Diverse

Student Race:  American Indian/Native American  Asian  Black/African-American  
 Multiracial  Pacific Islander/Hawaiian  White  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Student Ethnicity: Is the student of Hispanic origin?  Yes  No

**The Florida Prepaid College Foundation Scholarship Requirements:**

Does the student have a Social Security #?  Yes  No

Is the student a U.S. Citizen?  Yes  No

Is the student a resident alien?  Yes  No

Does the student have a Florida Prepaid College Plan?  Yes  No

**SECTION B: Household Information**

Parent/Guardian (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (First, Last, MI)

Parent (1) Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent (1) E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Last Grade Completed in School \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (First, Last, MI)

Parent (2) Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent (2) E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Last Grade Completed in School \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant lives with:  Mother  Stepmother  Grandmother  
 Guardian  Father  Stepfather  Grandfather  
 Ward of Court  Other

Number of brothers \_\_\_\_\_ Number of sisters \_\_\_\_\_

Please list all persons living in the home other than student/applicant:

Name	Age	Relationship	Highest Level Of Education
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Does applicant have a sibling or member of the household currently or previously involved in the Take Stock in Children Program?  Yes  No

If yes, include name of current/ previous Take Stock in Children participant and include relation to applicant:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation: \_\_\_\_\_



**Independent siblings living outside the home:**

Name	Age	Relationship	Currently Attending School (Check One)	Last Grade Completed
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____

**SECTION C: Employment Information**

Parent/Guardian's Current Employer:

Name of Parent/Guardian (1): \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Employer: \_\_\_\_\_  
(street, city, zip)

Number of years with Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Gross Monthly Salary \_\_\_\_\_  
(Before taxes and deductions)

Parent/Guardian's Current Employer

Name of Parent/Guardian (2): \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Employer: \_\_\_\_\_  
(street, city, zip)

Number of years with Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Gross Monthly Salary \_\_\_\_\_  
(Before taxes and deductions)

**SECTION D: Financial Information**

What is your household income? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Are you eligible to receive any social service? (TANF, SNAP, Medicaid, etc.)  Yes  No

Please check the services you currently receive:

Welfare/TANF  Food Stamps/SNAP  Medicaid

Are you currently receiving assistance from your local CareerSource Development Office?  Yes  No

Do you receive income from any other source for this student/applicant? (Social Security, child support, unemployment, etc.?)  Yes  No

If Yes, please list type of support and amount per month:

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Do you or the student/applicant have a savings account?  Yes  No

Approximate balance: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own your own home?  Yes  No

If yes, what is amount of your monthly payment? \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, how much did your house cost? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Do you rent?  Yes  No

If yes, what is the amount of your monthly payment? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

How long at current address? \_\_\_\_\_

**A complete copy of the most recent filed tax return Form 1040 must be attached with the student applicant listed as a dependent on the tax return in order to be eligible for consideration. (If you did not file taxes, please contact your local TSIC program).**

**SECTION E: Student Information (To be completed by student)**

**Student's Career Field(s) of Interest** (check all that apply):

- Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, Audio/Video Technology and Communications
- Business, Management, and Administration
- Education and Training
- Energy
- Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Finance
- Government and Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, and Security
- Manufacturing
- Marketing, Sales, and Service
- Military
- Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

**Hobbies/Interests:** Which of the following activities do you enjoy participating in or watching?  
(Check all that apply)

- Sports (specifically, \_\_\_\_\_)
- Handicrafts (specifically, \_\_\_\_\_)
- Outdoor Life    Mechanics/Science    Literature    Pop Culture (Movies, TV, etc.)
- Music    Collecting    Other \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION E: Student Information (To be completed by student).**

List activities, interests, strengths, hobbies or awards you have received (church, school, community, work experience, etc.)

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**Student Statement**

Please tell us about your goals, aspirations and hopes for your future (attach another sheet if needed).

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**SECTION F: Parent/Guardian Statement (To be completed by parent(s)/guardian(s))**

Apart from financial considerations, how could this program benefit your child? Please include your goals, aspirations and hopes for your child's future (attach another sheet if needed).

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Please list all special family situations that might be relevant to school success (serious illness in the family, loss of employment, Department of Children and Families involvement, homelessness, etc.).

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The factors listed below are used to determine your eligibility, please check all that apply:

- Student attends low-performing school (D or F rated school)
- Single parent
- Incarcerated parent
- Deceased parent
- Absent parent (no contact or support)
- Poor relations between biological parents
- Department of Children and Families involvement
- Extended family in home
- Extended family raising student
- Student applicant is teen parent
- Parent was teen parent
- Family has received TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) benefits within last year
- Student is first in the family to complete high school
- Migrant worker
- English not spoken in home
- Loss of employment
- Home in foreclosure
- Homeless or living with extended family or friends
- Serious illness in household
- Disabled student or family member
- Student is or has been in foster care
- First-Generation college student (neither parent has earned a baccalaureate degree or higher)
- Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

I understand that the information contained in this application is accurate and will be managed and implemented by the Local TSIC Lead Agency/TSIC Program and shared with the Local Lead Agency selection committee. I also certify that all information in this application is truthful and accurate and that I understand that any false information in this application may result in my child losing his or her eligibility in the program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**\*Submission of this application does not guarantee scholarship award\***

**For TSIC Program Official Use only:**

- Application Reviewed  
 Meets TSIC Programmatic Eligibility  
 Meets TSIC Income Eligibility

- Does Not Meet TSIC Programmatic Eligibility  
 Does Not Meet TSIC Income Eligibility

\_\_\_\_\_   
Local Program Staff Signature

\_\_\_\_\_   
Title

\_\_\_\_\_   
Date

**CLEAR**

**SECTION G: Parent/household Information - (to be completed by Parent)**

1. How does the student get to school? Walk  Ride Bike  Car  Bus  (If bus how much time? \_\_\_\_\_ )
2. Do you live more than a 30 minute drive from your school Yes  No
3. Does the student have access to a computer with internet at home? Yes  No
4. Is **English** the primary language spoken in the home? Yes  No

If not, please list primary language spoken \_\_\_\_\_

5. You **MUST** attach your most recent federal income tax statement and one month of recent pay stubs and/or business financial statements if self-employed or income documents for eligibility verification purposes. **If financial documents are not included student will be marked ineligible for Take Stock in Children.**

- Attachments Included (check all): W2s  Social Security statements  Food Stamps

Other/s: \_\_\_\_\_

**The following income verification MUST be completed. If you are unable to attach BOTH mother and father's tax returns, or either parent does NOT contribute financially, we need a WRITTEN letter explaining why, and the situation, with facts we can verify.**

6. Is either parent self-employed? Yes  No  If yes, Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_
7. **Please submit copy of student applicant's 2021-2022 quarter 1 report card** to the Student Services Coordinator, Alayna Reddick, by December 2nd, 2022 by emailing it to [reddickal@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:reddickal@gm.sbac.edu), or dropping it off to the TSIC office at 2802 NE 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32641.

**SECTION H: Student's Information - (to be completed by student)**

An important part of this scholarship program is meeting regularly with a mentor. Why do you think having a mentor will help you succeed? Who has been a positive role model in your life (other than a parent or guardian) and how have they influenced the decisions you've made? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please list your current teachers and class subject taught.**

- |          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

**Letters of Recommendation:** A minimum of two (2) letters of recommendation must be submitted with the Take Stock in Children application. These letters should attest to why the student is deserving of acceptance in to the Take Stock in Children program. Recommendation letters may come from teachers, faculty members, community, business, and/or religious leaders, coaches or instructors.

**\*Please note:** One letter must be obtained from one of the student's current teacher.

**Parent Check List**

(Please initial next to each item you completed)

Parents, did you remember to:

Attach a copy of your Free or Reduce lunch form or a H.U.D. (Housing and Urban Development) Documentation, Medicaid Recipient Documentation or SNAP/TANF Recipient Documentation.

1. Legibly completed sections:

- A \_\_\_\_\_
- B \_\_\_\_\_
- C \_\_\_\_\_
- D \_\_\_\_\_
- F \_\_\_\_\_
- G \_\_\_\_\_

2.Allow your CHILD to complete sections E, H and sign application in section F? \_\_\_\_\_

3.Read and sign the application in section F? \_\_\_\_\_



I, \_\_\_\_\_ understand that if any section is left blank, or is illegible, the application will be considered incomplete. Students with incomplete applications will not be considered for the Take Stock In Children Program.

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Parent Signature

Date

## Student Check List

(Please **initial** next to each item you completed)

Students, did you remember to:

1. Did you complete section **E** NEATLY? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Did you complete section **H** NEATLY? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Attach 2 letters of recommendations? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Read and sign the application in section **F**? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Read and sign the statement below? \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ understand that if any section of my application is left blank, or is illegible (messy), or if my parent fills out any section for me, the application will be considered incomplete. I understand that students with incomplete applications will not be considered for the Take Stock In Children Program.

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Student Signature

Date

Questions? Please call our office at (352) 955-7250 ext. 6417