



Partial Internet Reimbursement for Parents

Bear Creek Community Charter School recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has posed significant challenges to students, families and staff. As a public school, Bear Creek Community Charter School has received federal stimulus funding through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). This funding is to be used by schools to help offset the negative impact of the pandemic on students and school operations.

Parents played a key role in ensuring their children continued to engage in meaningful learning from home, when attending in-person instruction was not possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes ensuring reliable home internet service. This program may reimburse parents for a portion of their home internet expense which was used to support distance/remote learning during periods of school closure in 2020 and 2021.

It is absolutely critical that parents/guardians read this program document in its entirety and understand what is required to be eligible to receive partial home internet reimbursement. Only those applications that fully comply with the program requirements will be considered for reimbursement. Bear Creek Community Charter School reserves the right to approve and/or deny any or all applications for reimbursement.

All questions regarding this program must be submitted via e-mail to jim.smith@bearcreekschool.com

Eligibility

Parents and legal guardians of current Bear Creek Community Charter School students who incur costs of \$25.00 per month or greater for home internet service, which was used by a charter school student/students between March 2020 - May 2020, and December 2020 - February 2021. Parents who pay less than \$25.00 per month are eligible for partial reimbursement up to \$25.00 per month.

Parents and legal guardians of current Bear Creek Community Charter School students, who submit a complete and accurate application following the requirements of this program document by the stated deadline, are eligible to apply for partial reimbursement of home internet expenses.

Parents of students who have been "Habitually Truant" during the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 are not eligible to participate. Habitually Truant is defined as a student having six (6) or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year. Parents/guardians who fall into this category would have received a written notice from the school, and most likely would have received two written notices.

Application for reimbursement under this program must be received by the school between Wednesday, February 24, 2021 and **Friday, March 12, 2021**. Applications can be mailed to the school or placed in the brown metal drop box outside the school's main entrance (under the canopy). All applications for reimbursement must be postmarked no later than Friday, March, 12, 2021. No exceptions will be made. Bear Creek Community Charter School will not be responsible for any delays in the U.S. Mail.

Amount of Reimbursement

Reimbursement under this program shall not exceed \$150.00. This is a one-time reimbursement. One reimbursement per student/residence/student address, regardless of shared-parenting arrangements. The exact amount of reimbursement will be determined by a number of factors, including when a student was enrolled at Bear Creek Community Charter School.

Reimbursement will be made by check. Checks will be in the name of one parent/guardian who has primary physical custody of the student, based on School enrollment records as of February 1, 2021, and mailed to the address on record at the school. Any check provided by the School as part of this program is only valid for 90 days. If a check is not cashed within 90 days, it becomes null/void and the parent/guardian relinquishes the opportunity to benefit from this program. Bear Creek Community Charter School will not void or recut a check for any reason, nor will it mail the check to any other person or address.

We anticipate reimbursement to occur within two to four weeks after the program deadline. Please do not call the school and inquire about the status of reimbursement. If your application is rejected, you will receive a written notice explaining why.

Other Program Requirements

Applicants who receive free or discounted home internet service through another government program are not eligible for reimbursement under this program.

In addition to completing and submitting the one page (two sided) application for reimbursement, eligible parents/guardians must attach a copy of an internet or cable bill for one month that clearly indicates internet service to the home address for the student on file with Bear Creek Community Charter School as of February 1, 2021. The bill from your home internet provider can be for any one month between March 2020 and January 2021. The bill must clearly identify the service address (student's home address) and the amount paid for internet service. If the internet service is bundles with other service such as cable television or cable phone, please circle the line item and write "internet is bundled" on the bill.

In the event eligible parents/guardians do not have dedicated internet service but rely upon a cellular "hot spot" for home internet service, a copy of the cellular phone bill can be substituted for an internet service bill. The cellular phone bill must be in the name of one of the parent/guardians who have custody of the student, and the address of the cellular phone bill must match the address on file for the charter school student. Please circle the line item and write "use cellular hot spot" on the bill.

Families who are in arrears (owe the school money) may not receive full reimbursement, or any reimbursement under this program, until their debt to the school is satisfied. Any debt owed to the school will be satisfied, or partially satisfied with program funds. If any of the funding remains, the balance will be provided to parents who submit an appropriate application. This includes negative food service balances, owing the school for lost or damaged books, Chromebooks, etc.

This is a reimbursement; it is not income. Therefore, it is non-taxable.

This reimbursement is being made with federal funds. The information parents/guardians provided as part of the application must be accurate; to which they will certify. Certifying false or inaccurate information is a federal crime and is punishable by law.

Bear Creek Community Charter School is an Equal Opportunity Educational Institution.



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APPLICATION

Parent/Legal Guardian's Name (Applicant): _____

Telephone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Student Name(s): _____

Student's Street Address for Home Internet Service: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Internet Service Provider: _____ Monthly Cost: _____

Please complete each of the following:

1. A current Bear Creek Community Charter School student resides in my household and has used my home internet service at some point between March 2020 and January 2021 to complete school work at home as part of remote/distance learning. Yes No
2. I utilize Home Internet Service. Cellular Telephone "Hot Spot" for Internet Service.
3. Our home internet services is bundled with cable television. Yes No
4. Do you receive free or discounted home internet service through another government program. Yes No
5. I pay for home internet service each month. Yes No
6. I have read and completed the checklist on the back of this page. Yes No

By signing this document:

I (including student or any other parent or legal guardian) are not in arrears or owe Bear Creek Community Charter School any money. If we do owe the school money, I understand my application may be denied or the amount of reimbursement reduced. My child (student) has not been Habitually Truant during the 2020-2021 or 2021-2022 school year.

I have read the "Partial Internet Reimbursement for Parents" program document, understand it, and agree to all the terms and conditions. The information provided on this Application, along with supplemental documents I am attaching to this application, are true and correct.

I attest under penalty of perjury that the above information is true and correct.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian (Applicant)

Date

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APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Step-By-Step Instructions to Apply for Partial Internet Reimbursement

- Read the “Partial Internet Reimbursement for Parents” program document.
- A current Bear Creek Community Charter School student resides in my household and has used my home internet service at some point between March 2020 and January 2021 to complete school work at home as part of remote/distance learning.
- I pay for home internet service or use a cellular hot spot so my child (Bear Creek Community Charter School student) could complete schoolwork during the period March 2020 through January 2021.
- My child (Bear Creek Community Charter School) is not considered Habitually Truant.
- I (*including student or any other parent or legal guardian*) are not in arrears or owe Bear Creek Community Charter School any money, and if we are, this debt will be paid using program funds before any reimbursement is provided to me.
- I do not receive free or discounted home internet service through another government program.
- I completed the Partial Internet Reimbursement for Parents Application in its entirety.
- I am attaching a copy of my home internet bill for one month between March 2020 and January 2021, which clearly identifies the service address (student’s home address on file with the charter school) and the amount paid for internet service.
- If my home internet is bundled with another service such as cable television, I attached a bill, circled the amount paid, and I have written “Internet is bundled” on the bill. Internet service must be clearly indicated on the bill provided – so provide all pages.
- If I use a cellular telephone hot spot for home internet, I am including a copy of my bill for one month between March 2020 and January 2021, which clearly identifies the service address (student’s home address on file with the charter school) and the amount paid. I circled the amount paid and wrote “use cellular hot spot” on the bill.
- The information I included on the Application and the documents I attached are true and correct.
- I submitted the Application and supporting document to Bear Creek Community Charter School before **Friday, March 12, 2021.**



You Must Follow Instructions Explicitly.

Your Application Must be Complete & Accurate.

You Must Attach Documentation.

Deadline is Friday, March 12, 2021.