

TRIP (Tuition Reduction Incentive Program) Policies and Procedures

TRIP Registration

- A. A Registration form must be completed and enclosed with your first order of each school year. Registration Forms are available at the TRIP Office and online at highlandchristian.org. The disclaimer section needs to be filled out and signed if a child will be bringing your certificates home. Only the envelope with the certificates ordered under your family number will be given to the designated student. These Registration Forms will be kept on file. The orders for SEC students MUST be picked up in the school office. We will not release orders to SEC students.
- B. The TRIP program will operate according to the TRIP calendar and TRIP News, which are available at the TRIP office, in the parent note and online at www.highlandchristian.org. Any further questions may be directed to the coordinator.

Placing an Order

- A. Once registered, you will use your HCS/SEC Record I.D. number as your TRIP number. Please use this account number for all TRIP orders. Family and/or friends may help with tuition reduction by ordering certificates from you or by registering for their own account number with the earnings directed to your family. If you are donating to more than one family, please fill out their names and account numbers. Tuition earnings will be divided evenly among these designated accounts. Submit one certificate order form for each family number. Place order form in a sealed envelope with payment in the form of a check or cash (please limit cash to \$100). Please make checks payable to HCS~TRIP. *Please note: TRIP orders are not Tax Deductible because you receive dollar for dollar value.*
- B. Order forms with payment need to be turned in to the TRIP Office. When placing your order; fill in the dollar amount of each certificate purchased. Note the denomination when doing this. For example, you cannot order \$25 if the denomination offered is \$10. We will make every effort to contact you regarding discrepancies. If we are unable to reach you, your order will be only processed for the amount of money that has been turned in. IOU's are not issued.
- C. **NSF Info:** The NSF fee for TRIP orders is a \$20 fee to be paid to HCS TRIP. After two NSF checks are written against your account, only money orders or cashiers checks will be accepted on your account. No further personal checks will be accepted for the purchase of certificates.
- D. **Orders Due:** All orders are due on Thurs. by 10 a.m. in the TRIP office. **No late orders will be accepted.**
- E. The TRIP program keeps a % of your order (paper & online orders) to help offset expenses incurred during the year. Percentages vary from gift card to gift card.

Online Ordering

You may place TRIP orders online using the shopwithscrip.com website. In order for you to use this service you will need to register with the TRIP program **and** you will need to get an enrollment code from the TRIP office to sign onto the scrip website for the first time. **If you are donating your tuition earnings to another family, that family must be registered with the TRIP program also.** This online service allows for payment from your checking or savings account using their "PrestoPay" program. The fee for this service is 15c per order. Or you can place your order online and pay the TRIP office with cash or a check payment no later than 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays. The fee for NSF online payments is the gift card order amount plus \$40 payable to HCS TRIP.

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Picking Up Your Order

- A. Filled orders will be delivered the following Tuesday to the designated student (if disclaimer has been filled out on the TRIP registration form) or may be picked up in the school office at 2:45 p.m. Please make every effort to pick them up at that time. These gift certificates are just like cash. **HCS is not responsible for lost, stolen or incorrectly ordered certificates.**
- B. TRIP participants are urged to count their certificates when received. You have 2 days from each scheduled pick up date to report an error. If a mistake of any kind is found, the TRIP coordinator must be notified immediately.
- C. Please note that some certificates do have an expiration date varying from 6 months to 2 years. Also, some stores may limit the amount of change back from a certificate purchase. Percentages and certificates are subject to change without prior notice. Every effort will be made to keep you informed of any changes made to the program via the Parent Note, TRIP News, and website.

Quarterly Reporting for Tuition Earnings

The ‘percentage’ earned by each participating family will be held by HCS TRIP account and credited to your account on the tuition statements of August, November, February and May. A TRIP statement of your purchases and tuition credit earned will be enclosed with your next TRIP order or sent home with your child. Any discrepancies found on your statement must be reported to the TRIP coordinator within 15 days of the statement date.

Tuition Earnings Credit

- A. TRIP is being offered to promote the education of students at Sonshine Enrichment Center and Highland Christian School; therefore, the money collected on your family HCS Record I.D. number will only be paid to SEC/HCS tuition reduction for grades K-8 and preschool.
- B. If your student(s) will no longer be attending SEC/HCS, the monies held under your family account number can be:
 - 1. Credited to your outstanding tuition balance
 - 2. Credited to another family’s tuition account
 - 3. Credited to the General Tuition Assistance Fund
 - 4. Credited to the HCS Foundation Fund
 - 5. Credited to Illiana Christian High School, if your child will be attending school there.

(Written notice needs to be received within 60 days of the time the student(s) leave the school for these credit options to apply. Otherwise monies not designated will remain in the HCS TRIP account.)

Future Family

Parents planning for the future education of their student at SEC/HCS may also participate. The ‘percentage’ earned will be held by the prepaid tuition account and will be credited at the end of a quarter as a tuition payment when the TRIP coordinator is informed. Future families who have not participated in the TRIP program for a two-year period will be considered inactive and contacted as to their intentions. If a written reply is not received within 60 days of the contact, their earnings will be transferred to the HCS TRIP account. If the inactive family has moved with no forwarding address available, the earnings will be transferred as stated previously.

More Information

Any further questions can be directed to the TRIP Coordinator at 219-838-0356 ext. 199.