

**Program for the Support of Christian Education and Home Schooling by Fellowship Bible Church**  
*Revised February 12, 2017*

Instruction provided in the Home, at School, and in Church are individually and equally important in the development of children to be committed disciples of Jesus Christ. It is the desire of the Elders of Fellowship Bible Church (FBC) to make Christian Education or Home Schooling more accessible to those FBC members who desire those forms of instruction for their children.

In order to help qualified FBC members with the financial commitments associated with Christian Education in the school or home setting, FBC, through their Christian Education and Home Schooling Fund (FBC – CEHS Fund), will pay a portion of tuition costs for their children enrolled in and attending Oskaloosa School for Christian Instruction (OSCI) and Pella Christian High School (PCHS) or in an approved Christian School; or will pay an established amount to cover a portion of annual costs for instructional materials used in the accepted home schooling of their children, as detailed below:

**Christian Education reimbursement** will be limited to the following:

- For families receiving tuition assistance in the form of sliding scale or Pastor discounts, and/or receiving assistance based on income level through the Christian School (i.e. School Tuition Organization - STO funds, tuition assistance programs), the FBC-CEHS Fund contribution will be limited to no more than **20%** of the total tuition (and registration) cost established by the school (prior to reduction by tuition assistance).
- For families not receiving tuition assistance, the FBC-CEHS Fund contribution will be limited to no more than **30%** of the total tuition (and registration) cost established by the school.

**Home Schooling reimbursement** will be paid in the following amounts to students receiving at least 50% of their instruction in an accepted home school program, but excluding those who receive funds through another home schooling assistance program:

Kindergarten = \$100      1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> Grade = \$200      7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> Grade = \$250

Reimbursement for home school students receiving less than 100% of their instruction in a home school will be reduced by the amount (percentage) of instruction received in a public school. Recipients of reimbursement for not full time home schooling will be eligible to receive Christian Education reimbursement.

Home schooling program acceptance will be based upon review of information provided to the FBC-CEHS Committee (a requirement of eligibility to receive funding); with the delivery of the information the Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are permitting access to and review of the record. **Only one (1) of the following is to be provided, if required:**

1. Copy of reports or letter prepared by a supervising teacher; reports or letter are to establish that the program is acceptable to the State of Iowa if/as required, and that the student is progressing in his/her education and at a grade level that correlates to the age of the student
2. Copy of results of an acceptable standardized test establishing that the student is progressing in his/her education and is at the grade level which correlates to the age of the student.
3. In the absence of the above, and at the discretion of the Committee, a brief interview with the Parent(s) and Child(ren) is conducted once per year by members of the Committee.
4. Also:
  - a. Only Christian based curriculum will be reimbursed; the name of the curriculum being used will be included on the application.

- b. At the discretion of the FBC-CEHS Committee, a mission statement listing the objectives, motivations, and expectations for home schooling, may be required from the parent(s) prior to the award of funds.
- c. Applicants will be asked to identify if they are receiving any other funding for curriculum purchases

A qualified Member of Fellowship Bible Church (FBC) is a person who is fulfilling the duties and responsibilities of Members as defined in Article V, Section 3, of the Constitution of Fellowship Bible Church.

Applications for tuition assistance are due by June 30, for the upcoming school year.

Distribution of awarded funds will be made according to the schedule under which the remaining schooling costs are paid (monthly, by semester, by year).

If the FBC-CEHS Fund balance is not sufficient to pay for all approved tuition assistance requests, the amount of all approved requests will be reduced by the same percentage necessary to prevent the FBC-CEHS Fund payments from exceeding the fund balance.

The FBC-CEHS Fund will not accept designated contributions for the benefit of any specific child or either educational method, in order that contributions qualify as a charitable contribution.

Christian Education and Home Schooling Fund (CEHS Fund) organization and administration guidelines:

1. FBC - CEHS Fund will accept contributions from all persons; the contributions will be received by FBC as a charitable contribution.
2. FBC – CEHS Fund will be administered by a committee of five (5) FBC Members appointed by and reporting to the FBC Elder Board; the committee to include the FBC Treasurer, at least one Elder, and at least one FBC member with no ties to Christian education or home schooling. The FBC Elder Board will govern the administration of the FBC – CEHS Fund including the distribution of funds to recipients, establishing guidelines for the administration of funds, and the continuation of the FBC – CEHS Fund program.
3. At such time that the FBC Elder Board discontinues the FBC – CEHS Fund, all remaining funds will be added to the FBC Elders Benevolence Fund or FBC Building Fund at the discretion of the Board.