

MCPS GIVE BACKpacks FAQs

How can I make a donation to the GIVE BACKpacks campaign?

- 1) Donate by check – Make payable to: “GIVE BACKpacks” or “GIVE BACKpacks - name of school”
Mail check to:
MCPS Educational Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 1007
Rockville, MD 20849 – 1007
- 2) Donate online using: www.mcpsgivebackpacks.org
- 3) [Donate via text message:](#)
 - Text ‘Backpack’ to 301-329-2238
 - A reply will ask, “How much would you like to give?”
 - Enter your donation amount (minimum of \$10 is required)
 - Respond to the reply, “Would you like this gift to be recurring?” Enter “yes” or “no”
 - Enter your credit/debit card and billing information, and you’re done!

Can I sponsor a school in my neighborhood?

- You can direct your donation to a school of your choice. Please contact the Partnerships Unit at 240-740-5599 for information on sponsorships.

Can I donate (in-kind) backpacks and school supplies?

- Our campaign is for monetary donations. With every \$10 donation, a student will receive a backpack filled with the following items:

Elementary schools:

- 12-Pack of pencils
- Pencil box
- 24-Pack of crayons
- Glue stick
- Composition notebook
- Dry erase marker
- Sharpener for pencils and crayons
- Scissors
- Sheet protectors (to be used as a whiteboard)

Secondary schools:

- 12-Pack of pencils
 - 6-Pack of black pens
 - 1 Pack of filler paper – 100 sheets, wide-rule
 - 1 Pack of 3-ring dividers – 5 tabs
 - 3 Ring binder
 - 2 Pocket folder
 - 12- Pack colored pencils
- If an organization wishes to donate backpacks to a school, please contact the Partnerships Unit at 240-740-5599 for suggestions.

When is the deadline to donate?

- The GIVE BACKpacks campaign receives and accepts donations all year. If the donation is received after October, it is typically included in the following year's campaign.

How do I learn more about GIVE BACKpacks?

- The GIVE BACKpacks campaign raises funds to purchase backpacks for students who qualify for Free and Reduced - Price Meals (FARMS). The quantity of backpacks purchased is based solely on the amount of donations received. Our goal for 2021-2022 is to raise enough funds to purchase 30,000 backpacks with school supplies. Our ideal goal is to purchase 61,000 backpacks.
- Visit www.mcpsgivebackpacks.org, call 240-740-5599 or email Barbara_Hihn@mcpsmd.org

Where can students get free backpacks? How are students selected to receive free backpacks and supplies?

- Backpacks with school supplies will be delivered directly to schools. Each school's administrative team decides on the best process to distribute backpacks to students in need.

How are schools chosen to receive backpacks?

- The number of backpacks and school supplies ordered is based on the amount of funds donated.
- Schools are selected based on the percentage of students who qualify for Free and Reduced-Priced Meals (FARMS). We start with the schools with the highest percentage and work down the list. This list changes each year based on donations and FARMS percentages.
- Backpacks are also provided to the International Admissions and Enrollment Office.
- Backpacks also will be sent to schools who have a donation specified for their school.

When will schools receive backpacks?

- Backpacks will be delivered to schools two weeks before school starts.

Who does my donation support?

- General donations are directed to the overall campaign to supply backpacks to schools with the highest FARMS percentages, unless stated otherwise. All donations support principal requests for backpacks for students in need.