

## **RAISE RIGHT (formerly SCRIP) FAQs**

### **What is RaiseRight (formerly SCRIP)?**

RaiseRight is a tuition reduction incentive program that helps to reduce tuition (or to supplement other school funds/programs as approved) through your purchases.

### **Why should I become involved in the RaiseRight program?**

The beauty of RaiseRight is that you put your regular household dollars to work. You can earn money for yourself (or school) without spending a single additional penny; just spend your regular shopping dollars with RaiseRight at the stores that participate in the program! These retailers are doing something very generous for DeMotte Christian Schools, Inc. (DMCS, Inc.) and other non-profit organizations. Show your appreciation by sending your shopping dollars to the retailers that want to support DMCS, Inc., and your child's Christian education.

### **What's the catch?**

The catch – if there is one – is that you have to plan your purchases a little bit ahead of time. That's it! But through the RaiseRight app, you can purchase an e-gift card while standing in a store or sitting in a restaurant and use it right away.

### **What if I do not need to do the RaiseRight program?**

If you are financially secure with your tuition status then what you earn by participating in the program can be allocated to another family in need of tuition assistance, a school fund, or the DMCS Finance Committee can decide for you. What a wonderful and easy ministry of stewardship.

### **How does RaiseRight reduce my tuition at DMCS, Inc.?**

The RaiseRight program purchases gift cards from a national company. This company is able to buy large quantities of these gift certificates from certain businesses at discounted prices. Because these businesses want to help non-profit organizations, they offer them at face value with the understanding that a certain percentage will go toward tuition or a school fund. Each business decides what percentage they will give.

Cup of Joy, Strack & VanTil, Yesteryear's, Belstra Milling, and Dekker Lighting participate in the program independent from the national company but follow the same premise.

### **How does RaiseRight work?**

A RaiseRight account is set up for you based on your last name. Other family members or friends may order gift cards on your order form or by registering for their own account with the earnings directed to your family account.

Accounts can also be set up for future families before children are enrolled at DMCS, Inc. and the money is held until the child starts school at DMCS, Inc.

**How often is a RaiseRight order placed?**

The RaiseRight program is offered according to the annual calendar. The “goal” is to be able to offer RaiseRight every other week/two to three times per month. In order to offer RaiseRight more frequently (weekly), we have to have enough orders so that shipping costs are covered. Current shipping rate with UPS is \$8.75/shipment.

RaiseRight dates will be posted in the weekly Knightly News (during the school year) as well as on the school’s website. Dates may be changed and/or added at the discretion of DMCS, Inc. and the RaiseRight Coordinator. Most RaiseRight dates will be on Mondays.

**How often do I receive the tuition credit?**

Twice per year: September and March. Your earnings will be credited to your tuition account and will be reflected on September and March’s tuition statements.

**Where are the RaiseRight forms and mailbox located?**

At DeMotte Christian Elementary School, the RaiseRight registration forms, order forms, and mailbox are located in between the doors to the main entrance. The front exterior doors remain unlocked which allows public access to drop off order forms at any time. The RaiseRight mailbox is locked. Please be cautious if leaving a cash order in the box overnight. RaiseRight information packets can also be picked up at the main office. At DeMotte Christian High School the forms are located in the front office.

**How do I get started?**

Fill out a RaiseRight registration form with your first order or you can register online at <https://www.raiseright.com/>. You can also download the RaiseRight app and create an account that way. An enrollment code is required. Please contact the school or the RaiseRight Coordinator, Jori Jansma, at 219-987-3721 or [jjansma@dmcsemail.org](mailto:jjansma@dmcsemail.org) to receive the code.

**How do I order physical gift cards?**

Fill out a completed RaiseRight order form or submit an order through the RaiseRight app. All orders must be submitted by 8 a.m. on the Monday morning of the specified order week.

**How much money could I earn?**

We have families who earn \$50 to \$2,000+ per year based on how they utilize the program.

**Is there a limit to the amount that I can order?**

No! There is no minimum or maximum amount that can be ordered. We have had families order thousands of dollars with an order (home improvement, airline tickets, appliance purchases, vacations, etc.).

**Are the merchants listed on the order form the only ones available?**

No. Included in this packet you will find a complete listing of retailers currently involved in the RaiseRight program. Please save this list for future reference. You may also log on to their website at <https://www.raiseright.com/> to find the most current list of retailers, or view them on the RaiseRight app. If you wish to order from a retailer not listed on the regular order form, you may add the name of the retailer, the discount percentage, and the dollar amount on the order sheet.

**Do changes ever occur with the SCRIP program?**

Yes. Some retailers will quit the program or may have gift cards that are temporarily unavailable. New retailers are added. Discount percentages change. Retailers will often run “specials” and increase their % discounts – especially around the holidays. As changes and specials occur, we do our best to communicate these.

Please notify those who order for you/under you of any changes that may occur with RaiseRight.

**Can there be delays in receiving the gift cards that I purchased?**

Yes, it is possible. Christmas is a busy time and some gift cards can often be backordered and/or sold out. It is wise not to wait until the last RaiseRight order date before Christmas to place your order. Shop early! Also, rarely, there can be a delay with the UPS delivery of the order to the school.

**Do the gift cards ever expire? Are there any limitations and/or restrictions on the gift cards?**

Generally, no. If there is an expiration date it will be listed on the card. We cannot replace any that have expired. See the back of any gift cards for their rules regarding expiration. Some gift cards may start to lose some of their value after a certain period of time. Some gift cards cannot be used online, some limit the number that can be used online or in one transaction in a store,

**Can gift certificates be returned?**

No. The cards are purchased on your behalf and cannot be returned.

**Are RaiseRight purchases tax deductible?**

No, they are not tax deductible because you received dollar for dollar value.

**Who do I contact if I have questions regarding the RaiseRight program?**

You may contact the DMCS RaiseRight Coordinator Jori Jansma at 219- 987-3721 or [jjansma@dmcsemail.org](mailto:jjansma@dmcsemail.org).

**Can I find any information about RaiseRight on the DMCS, Inc. website?**

Yes. There is information available but it may not always be the most current. The goal is to have all RaiseRight information, forms, etc. readily available for you to print if needed at [www.demottechristianschools.org](http://www.demottechristianschools.org).

**Do I have to use my tuition credits every 6 months or can I “bank” them in my RaiseRight account (HOLD)?**

Credits can be put on HOLD and held in your RaiseRight account until you are ready to use them toward your tuition (or approved fund). Please notify the RaiseRight Coordinator if you wish your credits to be placed on HOLD. Likewise, if you wish to utilize your HELD tuition credits at disbursement time, please let the RaiseRight Coordinator know. Otherwise, if you have a “HOLD” status on your account at disbursement, it will be assumed that your account is to remain on HOLD.

**What if I encounter problems with a RaiseRight gift card (\$0 balance, etc.)?**

Rarely, problems do occur. Usually, this is a result of the merchant (incorrect loading) and not the Great Lakes RaiseRight office. FIRST, please call the phone number listed on the back of your card (if available). Let them know you purchased your gift card from Great Lakes RaiseRight program and the nature of your problem. This usually will fix the problem. If you are unable to resolve your issue, please contact the RaiseRight Coordinator ASAP so that she can assist you.