

## SCRIP FAQs

### **What is SCRIP?**

SCRIP is a tuition reduction incentive program that helps to reduce tuition (or to supplement other school funds/programs as approved) through the purchases you would make anyway.

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

The beauty of SCRIP 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 SCRIP 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!

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

If you are financially secure with your tuition status then what you earn by participating in the SCRIP 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 SCRIP reduce my tuition at DMCS, Inc.?**

The SCRIP 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 to you 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.

Tysen's, Yesteryear's, and Dekker Lighting participate in the program independent from the national company but follow the same premise.

### **How does SCRIP work?**

A SCRIP 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 DMC.

**How often is SCRIP offered?**

The SCRIP program is offered according to the annual calendar. The “goal” is to be able to offer SCRIP two to three times per month. In order to offer SCRIP more frequently (weekly), we have to have enough orders so that shipping costs are covered. Current shipping rate with UPS is \$8.50/shipment.

SCRIP dates will be posted in the weekly Home Bulletin and Knightline as well as on the school’s website. Dates may be changed and/or added at the discretion of DMCS, Inc. and the SCRIP Coordinator. Most SCRIP order dates will be on Mondays.

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

Twice per year: October and April. Your earnings will be credited to your tuition account and will be reflected on October and April’s tuition bills.

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

At DeMotte Christian School, the SCRIP 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. Please be cautious if leaving cash order in the SCRIP box overnight. SCRIP packets can also be picked up at the main office.

At Covenant Christian High School the forms are located in the front office.

**How do I get started?**

Fill out a SCRIP registration form with your first order or you can register online at <https://shop.shopwithscrip.com/>.

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

Fill out a completed SCRIP order form. Orders must be placed in the SCRIP mailbox by 8:00 a.m. on Monday mornings. Filled orders will be available for pick up by Friday of the same week (sometimes as early as Thursday).

You can also submit your order online, however, it must be submitted by 8 a.m. on Monday morning.

**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 SCRIP program. Please save this list for future reference. You may also log on to their website at [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com) to find the most current list of retailers. 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 SCRIP.

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

Sometimes there can and will be delays. 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 SCRIP 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,

FYI: Kohl’s allows SCRIP gift cards to be used to make payments on credit card accounts (at store registers). This service can be discontinued without prior notice.

**Can gift certificates be returned?**

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

**Are SCRIP certificate 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 SCRIP program?**

You may contact the DMCS SCRIP Coordinator Kara Nanninga at 987-3721; [knanninga@dmcs-in.org](mailto:knanninga@dmcs-in.org) ; text 219-805-9926.

**Can I find any information about SCRIP 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 the SCRIP 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 SCRIP account (HOLD)?**

Credits can be put on HOLD and held in your SCRIP account until you are ready to use them toward your tuition (or approved fund). Please notify the SCRIP 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 SCRIP 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 SCRIP gift card (\$0 balance, etc.)?**

Rarely, problems do occur. Usually, this is a result of the merchant (incorrect loading) and not the Great Lakes SCRIP 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 SCRIP program and the nature of your problem. This usually will fix the problem. If you are unable to resolve your issue, please contact the SCRIP Coordinator ASAP so that she can assist you.