

Food Scholarship

What is a Food Scholarship?

Clients **receive food scholarships** when they **commit to programs that can improve their lives**. By **lowering the financial stress** of household grocery costs, individuals are in a **better position to get the training, education or knowledge** they need to achieve independence. For **Fiscal Year 23, 8,892 individuals** were enrolled in **Food Scholarship**.

- Food scholarship recipients **receive groceries twice each month**, through designated **Food for Change Markets**, strategically located near clients **throughout the greater Houston area**.
- A **typical food distribution** includes up to **60 pounds of healthy food, per client, half of it produce**.
- Clients **select the food** they want to take home **in a grocery store or farmers markets style set up**.
- **As with traditional scholarships**, recipients of food scholarships **must maintain eligibility**, in this case, **by continuing their participation in programs**.



Types of Partnerships

Food Scholarships are integrated into **evidence-based programs** that measure **client outcomes and can be expanded or replicated**.

For example:



- **Education:** Degree/Certificate programs for middle skills jobs



- **Employment:** Including job readiness, resume building, ESL classes, etc.



- **Housing:** Sustainable housing; Home buyer education for residents of low income housing



- **Family finances:** Financial literacy, credit building, and/or Homebuyers Clubs

We measure success by tracking specific outcomes from each partnership to see if food scholarships help people achieve their goals.

If you feel your organization and its programming could benefit from the Food Scholarship initiative, please **e-mail foodscholarship@houstonfoodbank.org**.