



Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s) & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Student(s),

Take Stock in Children is looking for deserving students with good grades, good attendance, and good behavior who desire to make a difference and pursue postsecondary education. Take Stock in Children (TSIC) is a unique, comprehensive college and career program. The program offers students a caring volunteer mentor, a professional College Success Coach, College Readiness support, and, upon successful completion and participation in the TSIC program, students earn a Florida Prepaid College Foundation 2-year state college tuition scholarship. This scholarship covers tuition for two years at a Florida state public college approved by the Florida Prepaid College Foundation.

Charlotte Local Education Foundation (CLEF) serves as the lead affiliate in the Charlotte County area for the TSIC program. Before a student can be selected for the program, Take Stock in Children needs to purchase the scholarship, secure a volunteer mentor and organize a supportive program for the student and parent(s)/guardian(s). Thanks to the generous support of our community donors, students earn a Florida Prepaid Foundation 2-year college tuition scholarship upon successful completion of the program. Volunteer mentors who complete and pass a full background check, are recruited and trained to provide support, guidance, and encouragement for the student throughout middle school, high school and beyond. The College Readiness program includes one-on-one and small group meetings, facilitated by College Success Coaches, Career Exploration and College Readiness Workshops, and many other opportunities.

**Students selected for the TSIC program commit to:**

- Stay drug and crime free
- Maintain at least a 2.5 unweighted cumulative GPA and a 'C' or above in all courses
- Attend school regularly (No more than 4 absences per quarter)
- Exhibit good behavior in and out of school
- Volunteer and become involved in the community
- Meet weekly with their mentor on school grounds (or in a virtual supervised setting, when necessary)
- Complete program curriculum and yearly benchmarks (this is a program serving your child in eighth through twelfth grades)
- Participate in all program activities, meetings, and events
- Respond to communication from mentor and/or Take Stock in Children staff within 24 hours

The program eligibility criteria, participation deadlines, and application are enclosed in this packet. Take Stock in Children is a model that Charlotte Local Education Foundation is very proud of for its record of student accomplishment.

With a vision of a community that is 100% engaged in support of student success, CLEF serves a unique role by bringing the community together to create life-changing learning experiences for every student through opportunities such as this. To learn more about the resources we provide, please visit [Charlotteschoolfoundation.org](http://Charlotteschoolfoundation.org).

Sincerely,  
Sara Wierhake  
Executive Director  
Charlotte Local Education Foundation

## Become a Take Stock in Children Scholar

Deadline is October 1, 2020

### Criteria for Application

To be eligible to apply for the Take Stock in Children program, students must meet the below listed criteria:

- Earning a minimum of a 2.5 GPA
- Have good attendance and behavior
- Be a U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident or Eligible Non-Citizen
- Have a Social Security number
- Meet the below income eligibility guidelines provided by the USDA

### INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

*Reminder: Total income before taxes, social security, health benefits, union dues, or other deductions must be reported.*

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	ANNUALLY	MONTHLY	TWICE PER MONTH	EVERY TWO WEEKS	WEEKLY
1	23,606	1,968	984	908	454
2	31,894	2,658	1,329	1,227	614
3	40,182	3,349	1,675	1,546	773
4	48,470	4,040	2,020	1,865	933
5	56,758	4,730	2,365	2,183	1,092
6	65,046	5,421	2,711	2,502	1,251
7	73,334	6,112	3,056	2,821	1,411
8	81,622	6,802	3,401	3,140	1,570
For each additional family member, add	8,288	691	346	319	160

### How to Apply

Complete the written application and submit all documents to your school's guidance office, or directly to Charlotte Local Education Foundation. Once submitted, all applications will be reviewed by Charlotte Local Education Foundation staff for completion and assessed by an independent, community-based selection committee to determine a group of semifinalists. Semifinalists will complete an interview and final student selection will be determined by the committee.

### Questions?

E-Mail: [cynthia.molina@yourcharlotteschools.net](mailto:cynthia.molina@yourcharlotteschools.net)

## Instructions

**Application Check List: *Incomplete and/or late applications and documents will not be considered.***

*Application should be completed via computer/typed. Essays and short answers must be typed, and not hand written.*

1. Complete all sections of the 2020-21 TSIC Student Application  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Section A:** Student Identification Information  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Section B:** Household Information  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Section C:** Employment Information  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Section D:** Financial Information  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Section E:** Student Information  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Section F:** Parent/Guardian Statement
2. Complete all sections of the 2020-21 TSIC Student Application – Part 2, (Supplemental Application)  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Section G:** Student Short Answers  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Section H:** Parent/Guardian Consent For Release of Educational Information
3. Include all documents  
\_\_\_\_\_ Copy of parent(s)/guardians(s) **2019** Tax Return **with student listed as dependent**
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Return application and documents packet to the student’s school counselor office, or directly to Charlotte Local Education Foundation.

### Important Dates:

- **October 1, 2020** – Application and documents deadline

### Mail Application and all supporting documentation to:

Charlotte Local Education Foundation/TSIC  
18150 Murdock Circle  
Port Charlotte, FL 33948

### For questions please contact:

Sara Wierhake

**Email:** Sara.wierhake@yourcharlotteschools.net

**Phone:** 941-255-7500

**Address:** 18150 Murdock Cir. Port Charlotte, FL 33948

**Office Hours:** 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday