



## COOKING AUTISM, INC. SPECIAL EDUCATOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

(Fall 2021 scholarship award)

**Name of Scholarship:** Cooking Autism, Inc. Special Educator Scholarship

**Who is Eligible:** Special Education teachers, related services providers, paraprofessionals, or administrators who work with students with special needs

**Amount:** \$1,500 scholarship

**Application Deadline:** August 16, 2021

**Submitting Application:** Mail to: Cooking Autism, Inc, % Scholarship Review Team, 2 Otto Way Fredericksburg, VA 22406 or scan and email to [Info@CookingAutism.Org](mailto:Info@CookingAutism.Org)

**Selection Process:** Selection of the recipient will be made in June, and scholarship awardee will be notified promptly thereafter.

(Please print clearly.)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Site: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your phone number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

In no more than two pages, briefly explain how you meet the criteria for this scholarship. Please attach the current class schedule or non-official transcripts. You may attach additional information about yourself and your qualifications, as needed. If you have questions, please contact: April Burch:  
[April@CookingAutism.org](mailto:April@CookingAutism.org)



## Selection Criteria

- The recipient must be a full-time or part-time employee who serves as a teacher, related service provider, paraprofessional, or administrator who works with students with special needs.
- The recipient must indicate on the scholarship application how the funds will be used to help pay for continued study in special education, and how the scholarship will help the recipient achieve his or her professional development goals in teaching students with special needs.
- The recipient must indicate that he or she intends to continue working with autism programs in the future, and that she or he has no plans to leave the school system's employment or to stop serving students with special needs and their families within 12 months of completing the project funded by this scholarship award.

## General Information:

The "Cooking Autism, Inc. Special Educator Scholarship" was created by an amazing board of directors; three career special education teachers, two speech language pathologists, a hardworking community activist, and two passionate parents of two autistic children! Cooking Autism was founded after Morgan and April Burch saw their youngest son flourish under the direction of a team of special, and general, educators that took the time to help provide an important life-skills cooking class for his autism class. This cooking program began to help improve their child's important understanding of communication, asking and answering questions, fine motor skills, and sequencing, following written and verbal directions, socialization, manners, and other important life skills.

After seeing their child have such tremendous success, the Burch family decided to ask their son's team of extraordinary educators to join forces to start Cooking Autism, Inc; a non-profit organization that provides financial support to special education classrooms in the area. This financial support is provided to fund life-skills cooking classes in local school-based autism programs. The team at Cooking Autism is happy to help answer questions and provide support for teachers so that they may provide great opportunities of growth and strength for their students.

In the February 2021 Cooking Autism board meeting, the attending board members voted unanimously to provide a \$1,500 scholarship to one local special educator. The scholarship funds will be used by the recipient for such education expenses as tuition, fees, books, and supplies. Payment of the scholarship will be made directly to the institution the student will be attending. The recipient will be expected to pass or to complete with success the program funded by the award and to report on this achievement to the committee upon completion.

**COOKINGAUTISM.ORG**