

Scrip Info

Free Money for Your Child's DC Account

Every Discovery student has the opportunity to travel with DMS to Washington, DC in 8th grade.

What is it? How does it work? Where do I sign up?

What is it?

Scrip is a national fundraising program for non-profit organizations. Over 30,000 different organizations use Scrip; the Discovery PTO has been one of them since 2013. The concept is simple. You purchase gift cards and a rebate is given back. In the 4 years that we've been participating, our DMS families have purchased almost \$800,000 worth of gift cards and earned about \$56,000 in free money! Sounds too good to be true? It's not! It is truly free money! Here is why. There are over 700 retailers that sell their gift cards to Scrip at various discounts. You order these gift cards from Scrip at full face value, and the PTO purchases them at a reduced price. The difference is an instant rebate for the nonprofit organization. In our case, the PTO puts 90% of that rebate into your child's school DC account and puts 10% into the PTO fund, but you still receive the full value of the gift card - it's a win-win!

For example:

1. Martin's Supermarket sells their \$100 gift card to Scrip for a discount
2. You order a \$100 Martin's gift card from Scrip and pay the PTO \$100 for it
3. The PTO places the order and pays Scrip \$96 dollars for that card, because Martin's has a 4% rebate
4. The PTO now has an extra \$4. The PTO keeps 10% of that rebate, or \$0.40 and gives the school 90% of that rebate, or \$3.60, to put into your child's DC account.
5. You receive a \$100 Martin's gift card.
6. So, you paid \$100 for a \$100 gift card, but earned \$3.60 in free money!

Ok, so \$3.60 doesn't sound like much money, right?

Well, think of it this way - the average DMS family rebate is about \$35 per month. Here's how that could look:

| Retailer (rebate) | Gift Card Amount | Rebate Amount You Earn | Rebate Amount PTO Earns |
|--|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Martins (4%) | \$400.00 | \$14.40 | \$1.60 |
| Speedway (7%) | \$100.00 | \$6.30 | \$0.70 |
| Lowe's (4%) | \$50.00 | \$1.80 | \$0.20 |
| Chilis (18%, normally 11% but there was a special going on when you ordered) | \$50.00 | \$8.10 | \$0.90 |
| Under Armour (11%) | \$50.00 | \$4.95 | \$0.55 |
| Starbucks (7%) | \$20.00 | \$1.26 | \$0.14 |
| | \$670.00 | \$36.81 | \$4.09 |

The DC trip costs approximately \$900, and you just earned over \$35 in free money toward that trip in just one month by paying for your regular purchases with gift cards. At that rate, you'd have the entire trip paid for in 2 years.

What's the catch? No catch! It just may take some pre-planning as to where you think you will be shopping and how much you will spend.

But wait, there's more! ----->

Getting a headache? Then keep it simple, like this:

| Retailer (rebate) | Gift Card Amount | Rebate Amount You Earn | Rebate Amount PTO Earns |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Meijer (4%) | \$500.00 | \$18.00 | \$2.00 |

Just ordering this one gift card worth \$500 for groceries and household items earns you \$18 - keep reloading it every month when your child starts 6th grade, and you'll have earned over \$500 when your child goes to DC in 8th grade.

Don't want to deal with this every month? Then just do it when you go on vacation! Here's an example:

| Retailer (rebate) | Gift Card Amount | Rebate Amount You Earn | Rebate Amount PTO Earns |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| American Airlines (6%) | \$1,000.00 | \$54.00 | \$6.00 |
| Hotels.com(6%) | \$200.00 | \$10.80 | \$1.20 |
| Uber (3%) | \$50.00 | \$1.35 | \$0.15 |
| Royal Caribbean(13%) | \$2,000.00 | \$234.00 | \$26.00 |
| | \$3,250.00 | \$300.15 | \$33.35 |

Boom! One Scrip order for vacation and you've got \$300 toward the DC trip!

How does it work?

There are **3 types of gift cards** you can purchase (note - not every retailer offers all three options):

1. **Physical** - these are just like the gift cards you buy in a store. The PTO places an order for these once per month.
2. **Reload** - once you have purchased a gift card from Scrip, some retailers offer the ability to just "reload" that same card. Depending on how you pay for the Reload, the amount will either be applied to the card within 2 days or shortly after the monthly order is placed.
3. **ScripNow** - this is an electronic gift card. Depending on how you pay, the ScripNow "card" will be available for you to use either within minutes or after the monthly order is placed. You will receive an email when your ScripNow e-card is available. It will also show up in your Scrip account online.

There are **2 ways to pay** for your gift cards:

1. **Check made out to DMS PTO** - Checks are collected and cashed once per month. There is a box in the DMS office labeled "Scrip" and checks can be placed in it anytime throughout the month, but they are due by 4:00 pm on the due date. Payment method does not affect the order of Physical gift cards because they are only ordered once per month anyway. However, if you are ordering a Reload or ScripNow e-card, these will not be available to you until the monthly order is placed shortly after the due date.
2. **PrestoPay** - This is a new option PTO is offering. Once you've completed a successful Scrip order paying by check, the next month you can choose the PrestoPay option if you'd like. PrestoPay is a payment directly to Scrip, rather than the PTO. Your bank account is linked directly to the Scrip website via a secure ACH connection. There is a \$0.15 fee per order, but there are several advantages to this option:
 - o You can order a ScripNow and use it within minutes - like while you are waiting in line to check out!
 - o You can order a Reload and it will be applied to your card within 2 days
 - o You do not need to remember to send a check in to school (but you do still need to pick up physical cards)

Where Do I Sign Up?

1. Fill out the DMS PTO 5 Minute Form <https://goo.gl/YdzH8W>
2. Read the DMS PTO **Scrip Policy** Page
3. Create an account online at www.shopwithscrip.com. Select "Register", then "Join a Scrip Program", then enter code 35C5F8AD37615
4. Read **Scrip FAQs** and **Scrip Tips** to learn ways to maximize your earnings!

Questions? First read the Scrip FAQs, then contact Dana Sullivan, DMS PTO Scrip Coordinator, at danasullivan4@me.com