

Gene Grawe Fund, Inc.

"Serving God by Helping Each Other"
March 2024 Registration Letter



History

Founded in 2005, the Gene Grawe Fund, Inc. was started in St. Anthony of Padua Parish to help parish families with tuition at St. Anthony School. Since then, over \$3.31 million has been distributed to assist families in paying for a Catholic education! This fund was started in memory of my father, Gene Grawe who died in 2003 after living with Parkinson's Disease for 17 years. In Ephesians 2:10 it says, "It is God himself who has made us what we are and given us new lives from Christ Jesus; and long ages ago he planned that we should spend these lives in helping others." My dad spent his life helping others and it gives me great pleasure to do the same. When we serve others, we are serving God and my dad was a great example to me. I am proud and honored to be carrying on his legacy.

In 2008, the Gene Grawe Fund was expanded city-wide to help ALL families pay for a Catholic education at all five of Quincy's Catholic schools. In 2015, we centralized the Gene Grawe Fund into an office in the lobby of the Church of St. Peter right in the very heart of Quincy. And in 2018, we went online with our website, GeneGraweFund.org. Finally, in 2019, we began allowing supporters to select one of the five Catholic schools to receive their earnings as an unrestricted donation. God has continued to bless the Gene Grawe Fund beyond our wildest dreams.

The opportunity to be a part of the Gene Grawe Fund is offered to all families who will have students attending Blessed Sacrament, St. Dominic, St. Francis, and St. Peter K-8 schools or Quincy Notre Dame High School in the 2025-2026 School Year. We earn the scrip sales money during the 2024-2025 Scrip Year to distribute in the 2025-2026 School Year.

How We Do It

We sell gift cards for over 700 merchants nationwide, online, and about 61 locally. We sell gift cards for groceries, gas, dental, vision, prescriptions, veterinary, accounting, tax prep, jewelry, catering, restaurants, beer, wine, spirits, florists, hotels, airlines, cruises, dept stores, sporting goods, home stores, farm stores, car washes, pet washes, window cleaning, spas, funerals, monuments, landscaping, heating, air conditioning, electrical, plumbing, etc. Some of our biggest sellers are Target, County Market, Hy-Vee, Kohl Cash & Carry, Wal-Mart/Sam's Club, Casey's, and Shell. With many businesses you can even pay your bill at the Gene Grawe Fund office.

We sell gift cards for their face value and the Gene Grawe Fund receives a rebate from the merchant that is currently anywhere from 1% to 20%. The amount that you pay for the gift card is the amount of goods that you receive. There is no additional cost to you. There are no activation fees or inactivity fees. Our cards do not expire. You get what you pay for! What other fundraiser does that?

For example, if you purchase a \$100 Farm & Home Supply gift card from the Gene Grawe Fund, you receive the full \$100 and at 5%, the Gene Grawe Fund makes \$5. You are not out any extra money. This is money you would already be spending, and you are helping families pay for a Catholic education. You just make your check payable to the Gene Grawe Fund instead of the merchant.

A few merchant gift cards offer very high percentages, such as AutoShine & Red Roof (20%), Fatbacks BBQ (15%), Old Navy/Gap (14%), Bath & Body (12%), Best Western (12%). Many restaurants offer 8-15%. Keep them in mind to make your purchases count more! There are always some merchants offering bonuses. Take advantage of them. It really adds up and will be a big boost to the total money taken off your child's tuition!

To view a current merchant list, please go to the Download menu on the GeneGraweFund.org website. You can print the list if you want to have it for future reference, however, it changes occasionally. Our website will always have the current, up-to-the-minute list in PDF form. Below is the current list (as of Feb 2024) of the 61 local businesses from whom we purchase gift cards directly:

Abbey, The (5%)	Fatbacks Smokin Racks (15%)	Kitchen & Bath Gallery (3%)	Scotties Fun Spot (10%)
American Builder's Supply (3%)	Fish Window Cleaning (4%)	Kohl Cash & Carry (5%)	Silhouette Shop, The (5%)
AutoShine Car Wash (20%)	Four Paws Veterinary Clinic (5%)	Lavish Floral Design (5%)	Smith Brothers Powersports (2%)
A-Ware Ent., Inc. (tax prep) (10%)	Frese Ornamental Nursery (10%)	Little Greek Fresh Grill (8%)	Sprouts Inn Restaurant (10%)
Baileys Coffee & Fudge (10%)	GameMasters (5%)	McDonald's (5%)	Sturhahn Jewelers (5%)
Buffalo Prairie Dental (8%)	Gem City Memorials (5%)	Michelmann Steel Co. (3%)	TCBY (10%)
Butcher Block (5%)	Gem City Pizzeria (5%)	Oak Furniture Gallery (3%)	Thyme Square (5%)
Carl's Shoes (10%)	Glass One (5%)	Party Girl (5%)	Tiramisu Ristorante Italiano (7%)
Classic Colors (3%)	Hansen-Spear Funeral Home (3%)	Peters Heating & AC (5%)	Tower of Pizza & Mexican (5%)
County Market (5%)	Harrison Monuments (5%)	Popp'n On Maine (10%)	Vinson & Sill Contractors (5%)
Culvers (10%)	Hy-Vee (4%)	Quincy Tea Co. (5%)	Wine on Broadway (5%)
Designers Edge (5%)	International EyeCare (10%)	Red Roof Car Wash (15%)	Woodmart Building Center (3%)
Discount Golf World (5%)	Johnson Painting (1%)	Red Roof Pet Wash (20%)	Yellow Kiss Boutique (10%)
Doors-N-More (2%)	Jimmy Johns (5%)	Roy Bennett Furniture (2%)	
EvenGlow Skin (10%)	Keck Heating & Air Cond (5%)	Running Wild (2%)	
Farm & Home Supply (5%)	Kelly's Restaurant (5%)	SaveMore Carpets (5%)	

When you patronize these businesses, be sure to thank them for supporting the Gene Grawe Fund. It's the courteous thing to do, plus it lets them know just how many of their customers are supporters of the Gene Grawe Fund!

RaiseRight.com

Many of you have already taken advantage of the eGift Cards and Reloadable cards at RaiseRight.com and the RaiseRight mobile app. If you have not, I would recommend it. It comes in handy when you're shopping and don't have gift cards or if you're out of town. You can buy them on your smartphone, print them if you want, and some will even reload instantly. With some you just let the cashier scan the barcode on your phone. Not all merchants are available as eGift Cards or Reloadable cards, but over 700 are. If you're interested in joining, please go to the RaiseRight.com menu on the GeneGraweFund.org website.

If you're not using RaiseRight.com and the RaiseRight mobile app, you are missing out on a lot of tuition money. All purchases paid with PrestoPay or credit card at RaiseRight.com or in the RaiseRight mobile app earn 50% of the rebate for the student (see Gene Grawe Fund Program Agreement for details). Also, be sure to take advantage of those days when there are bonuses available at RaiseRight.com. Encourage your friends and family to do the same!

Gene Grawe Fund Gift Certificates

Gift certificates to the Gene Grawe Fund are very popular gifts. You buy a gift certificate to the Gene Grawe Fund, give it to someone, and the lucky recipient gets to come in and pick out the gift cards they want up to the value of the gift certificate. They are great for gift giving for those people you don't know what to buy for. Teachers love receiving them. So do businesses who give them as gifts, awards, and bonuses for employees. They must be ordered through JoAnn Witte and are sold in \$5 increments.

Thank You!

I want to thank all of you who have supported the Gene Grawe Fund and continue to support it in any way. Many of you have sold to co-workers, families, friends, neighbors, etc. to help make this fund grow. I also want to thank all our volunteers who work in the GGF office. Please thank them when you stop in to buy gift cards. All our GGF workers are volunteers! No one is paid anything.

For many, the Gene Grawe Fund becomes a habit after years and years of being a part of it. Your thinking changes and many of you never quit. So, I also want to thank those of you who continue to support the GGF even though your children have graduated, and you no longer have a child in a Quincy Catholic school. You may choose another family or school to support or let your earnings go to our general fund which will get distributed with the bonuses. May God Bless each of you! You are the key to our future growth.

What You Need to do Next

If you will have children attending any Quincy Catholic school in the 2025-2026 School Year, please complete and turn in the 2025-2026 Registration form and Gene Grawe Fund Program Agreement. Even if you decide later, you don't want the funds, please register anyway. Only registered families are eligible for funds. The sooner you register, the sooner you will be making your purchases count.

If this is your first year to register, when you turn in your registration forms at the GGF office or email them, you will be given a 9-digit Gene Grawe Fund account number and an instruction sheet on how to use Get My Spending on our website to check on your spending for the current Scrip Year. Your account number will be with your family until you no longer have a child in the Quincy Catholic School System. If you've registered before, just write your account number in the boxes at the top of your Registration Form.

It is important to include at least one email address so we can keep you updated on changes, bonuses, new things happening with the Fund and the all-important deadlines. It's the best way for us to correspond with our supporters. If you are not getting our newsletters, please contact us so we can get your correct email address. If you have any questions, please email, call, or stop by the GGF office.

We have many children with the same or similar names, so make sure you put your youngest child's first and last name on the memo line of your check when making purchases at the GGF office. Make sure you tell family and friends to do the same. Checks are the preferred method of payment, but cash is acceptable also. Just make sure you tell the GGF office volunteer the child's first and last name to enter onto the Daily Cash Purchases List. During the 2024-2025 Scrip Year (April 1, 2024 through March 31, 2025) we will be tracking purchase amounts to calculate your tuition awards for the 2025-2026 School Year.

If you don't have a student to sponsor, you can designate one of the five Quincy Catholic schools to receive the rebates you earn. The funds will be distributed to the designated school as a general donation to be used however the school sees fit.

Our contact information, office hours, holiday closings, and our severe winter weather closing policy are posted on our website and at the bottom of all the newsletters we send out. And yes, we are open in the summer with no special summer hours.

You really can make a difference in what you pay for tuition! This past year, we had several families earn FREE tuition at QND and the K-8 schools with the average family receiving \$840, all by using the GGF! The possibilities are endless! Let's live our lives helping others. Remember, we are called to help each other and when we help others, we are serving God. Thank you for all your support.

God Bless,



JoAnn M. Witte, President,
The Gene Grawe Fund, Inc.

GGF Office Phone: 217-214-0169
Email: Info@GeneGraweFund.org



Gene Grawe Fund, Inc. Registration Form 2025-2026 School Year



Enter Existing 9-Digit GGF Account Number
or GGF Label for New Registration

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------	----------------------

If you will have a child attending either Blessed Sacrament, St. Dominic, St. Peter, or St. Francis (K-8) Schools or Quincy Notre Dame High School in the **2025-2026 School Year**, you may be eligible for funds from the Gene Grawe Fund.

In order for you to be considered for funds from the Gene Grawe Fund, this form needs to be returned to the Gene Grawe Fund office so we can track your purchases. The more you, your family, and your friends participate, the larger the amount that will be distributed to you and other Quincy Catholic school families.

When making gift card purchases, it is **your responsibility** to put your youngest child's name in your check's memo line and to also remind your family and friends to do the same.

Below, please list all your children attending any of the Catholic Schools so we can credit gift card purchases to the right family. For the 2025-2026 School Year, gift card purchases will be tracked **April 1, 2024, through March 31, 2025**. Distributions are listed on the Gene Grawe Fund Program Agreement, which also needs to be completed to be fully registered.

PARENT and FAMILY INFORMATION

Parent's Last Name: _____	Mother/Father's First Names: _____
---------------------------	------------------------------------

Street Address: _____

City: _____	State: _____	Zip: _____
-------------	--------------	------------

Phone: _____	Alt Phone: _____
--------------	------------------

Email: _____	Alt Email: _____
--------------	------------------

Below, legibly enter your child's name the same way you will write it in the memo field of your check. This helps to ensure your purchase is credited to the correct family. Purchases will be tracked by the youngest child registered first.

CHILDREN'S NAMES	SCHOOL ATTENDING IN <u>2025-2026</u>	SCHOOL GRADE IN <u>2025-2026</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please register our family for The Gene Grawe Fund, Inc. for the School Year 2025-2026. **I know that in order to receive funds I need to support this fund and I must have this Registration Form and the Gene Grawe Fund Program Agreement both completed, signed and returned to the Gene Grawe Fund office.**

I understand the amount distributed to our family will be based, in part, on how much I sell/purchase in gift cards and the related rebates from those sales/purchases. I also understand that in order for my family to receive credit, I need to put my child's/children's names on the check's memo line.

I also know that no amount will be awarded over the cost of tuition (i.e., No funds will be awarded for Book/Technology fees, etc.).

I also know and understand that in order to receive funds I need to fill out a School Year 2025-2026 Scholarship Application form available after March 15, 2025 and return it no later than March 31, 2025.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____	Date: _____
----------------------------------	-------------

I give my permission for The Gene Grawe Fund Inc. to share my information with any of the Quincy Catholic schools.

***** Do not return forms to your school! *****

Completed forms must be brought to the Gene Grawe Fund office in the lobby of the Church of St Peter, 2600 Maine St, Quincy, IL or emailed as PDF attachments to Info@GeneGraweFund.org. Do not email images, use the downloadable PDFs from GeneGraweFund.org. Do not postal mail.

Gene Grawe Fund, Inc. Program Agreement 2025–2026 School Year



The Gene Grawe Fund, Inc. (referred to herein as “we”, “us” and “our”) sponsors a scrip program which allows you to purchase scrip. “Scrip” refers to the gift cards purchased through the Gene Grawe Fund, Inc. The scrip you purchase through our program generates rebates from the participating businesses. These rebates can be used as a credit to your tuition account, cash, and/or gift to the school. The parties agree as follows:

1. For administering the scrip program, we will retain a minimal amount of the rebates received from your scrip purchases for fees, inventory, supplies, expenses, etc.
2. Your rebates will be applied as follows:
 - a. 2% of the face amount of the gift cards attributed to the family that are purchased in the Gene Grawe Fund office by cash or check will be credited in accordance with Section 3.
 - b. 50% of the rebates from purchases made with PrestoPay or with a Credit Card at RaiseRight.com will be credited in accordance with Section 3.
 - c. 50% of the Total Remaining Rebates (total rebates reduced by the administration fee and the amount distributed to tuition account from the 2% above in 2(a) and also the amount distributed to tuition account from the 50% of rebates above in 2(b) from all purchases will be divided equally among any family who has purchased over \$5,000 in gift cards and such amount will be credited in accordance with Section 3.
 - d. 25% of the Total Remaining Rebates, as defined above, from all purchases will be divided equally among any family who has purchased over \$10,000 in gift cards and such amount will be credited in accordance with Section 3.
 - e. 25% of the Total Remaining Rebates, as defined above, from all purchases will be divided equally among any family who has purchased over \$20,000 in gift cards and such amount will be credited in accordance with Section 3.
3. The amounts received in accordance with Section 2 will be allocated to the following tuition account based on the name written on the check memo or on the cash purchases list or the student’s name/account number listed at RaiseRight.com when gift cards are being purchased. If no tuition account is listed, the amounts will go toward the administration fee in accordance with Section 1 and into the general fund to be used for the distributions described in Sections 2(c), 2(d) and 2(e):

Student’s Name:

If you wish to distribute the rebates differently than what is detailed above, please contact Gene Grawe Fund, Inc. president JoAnn Witte to discuss any such arrangements.

With respect to your charitable contributions, we will provide you with all required acknowledgements under sections 170(f)(8) and 170(f)(17) of the Internal Revenue Code.

You agree to indemnify us against any loss incurred in connection with there being insufficient funds in your account to cover the checks or ACH transfers you issue to pay for your scrip. We make no representations or warranties of any kind with respect to the scrip. This agreement can be terminated by either of us upon 60 day’s advance notice to the other.

Please sign and date below to indicate your acknowledgement of this agreement.

Purchaser’s Printed Name:

(Referred to herein as “you” and “your”)

Purchaser’s Street Address:

City:	State:	Zip:
-------	--------	------

Phone:	Email:
--------	--------

Purchaser’s Signature:	Date:
------------------------	-------