What is the Right Now Needs Fund?

The Right Now Needs Fund is a one-of-a-kind program that works at the individual school level to address the immediate basic needs of students and families across all 106 Seattle Public Schools. The fund ensures students fully participate in classroom activities by covering the costs of **warm clothing, meals, technology access, and housing** that are not included in individual school budgets, but necessary to help students thrive. The fund is known as a fast, flexible and impactful low-barrier resource that protects the privacy and circumstance of each student it serves. All Seattle Public Schools have a Right Now Needs Fund.

Our Partners

In 2018, Amazon committed a $2 million, two-year contribution to the Right Now Needs Fund. Since then, Amazon and other partners have invested in the Right Now Needs Funds’ unique and impactful strategy to sustain schools throughout the year.
The Right Now Needs Fund removes the stigma of asking for help by serving as a safe and accessible resource that prioritizes the dignity of Seattle students and their families. We ensure that each school has available funds and work directly with school staff to fulfill student needs in real time while respecting the privacy and circumstance of the student.”

Petaki Cobell, Director of the Right Now Needs Fund, Alliance for Education.

The Right Now Needs Fund was a blessing for me and my children when we needed it the most. During the pandemic, I had to take a pay cut and meanwhile my children were home adapting to remote learning, causing my utilities bill to increase exponentially. Being able to receive financial assistance to pay my past due utilities bill, and avoid getting them shut off, really took the burden and stress off my shoulders. My family and I are extremely grateful.”

Right Now Needs Fund Recipient

Our Impact

$2.6M
AS OF DECEMBER 2021

35,052+
instances of student support
DECEMBER 2018 – DECEMBER 2021

FOOD 56%
SHELTER 31%
SCHOOL SUPPLIES 6%
CLOTHING 6%
INTERNET 1%

The funds address the immediate basic needs of students and families across all 106 Seattle Public Schools.

Join us in supporting Seattle Public Schools students and families