

**Q: What is TRIP and how does it work?**

A: TRIP is a program that is designed to provide funds for your tuition through the purchase of gift cards that you and your family use on a routine basis or for a planned purchase. Here's an example of how it works:

A family plans to purchase a new dryer at Sears for \$400. Instead of purchasing Sears gift cards through BCS TRIP program with a rebate of 5%; they opt to purchase Land's End gift cards with a 17% rebate. Sears accepts both Land's End and Sears gift cards. At Sears, the gift cards are used to pay for the dryer. Land's End provides BCS a rebate of 17% for the cards purchased through the BCS TRIP program. That is \$68.00 back to the school. 80% of the rebate or \$54.40 will go towards the family's tuition and 20% or \$13.60 will be directed to administrative cost incurred by the school.

Remember routine purchases can add up over time. Don't forget to keep on hand gas, favorite restaurants, and other retailers that you and your family frequent. These make great gifts as well!

**Q: What is Administrative Cost?**

A: Administrative costs are the costs that BCS incurs to provide this program such as postage, office supplies, & computer software. If TRIP shows a profit at the end of the year, those funds will be directed to the BCS Tuition Assistance fund.

**Q: When and where can I place my order?**

A: Orders can be received anytime. You can drop off your order to Denise Cobb in the Business Office or Sue Smith in the Elementary Office. All orders need to be received no later than 1:30 on the day the orders are placed. TRIP is very time sensitive, a delay in the school's order results in a delay of when the shipment is received. One large order will be placed to every two weeks. Reminders will be made through the *Panther Press*.

**Q: How long does it take for the gift cards to come in?**

A: Orders placed on Monday will be received and processed by Friday afternoon. An email will notify you when and where your order can be picked up.

**Q: How can I further decrease my tuition?**

A: Get your family members to order and list your family to receive the benefits. Each participant must fill out the registration and agree to the policies of TRIP.

Further Questions? Contact Sherri Deal at 941-792-5454 ext. 104 or [sdeal@bcspanthers.org](mailto:sdeal@bcspanthers.org)