

Mat-Su Special Santa Program

FAQ's

PROGRAM INSIGHT

The Mat-Su Special Santa Program was founded in 1997. It has helped many families in need throughout the years in the Mat-Su Valley by providing gifts to their children for Christmas.

We are partners with Toys for Tots (they collect the toys for us)

Below is a list of commonly asked questions about the program.

How do families apply for the program?

Families can apply by filling out a parent form and a wish list for their children. These forms can be found online at www.specialsanta.net or picked up from WIC/Child Care Assistance offices, food banks, schools, and OCS starting Nov. 1st.

Who is eligible to apply for the program?

Income requirements are listed on the parent form. Also, any family going through a crisis such as a fire, or unexpected hardship can apply. All children in the residence are eligible to receive gifts, from newborn to 18 years old (if still enrolled in school)

What other requirements are there for the program?

Only one person per family may enroll, must be a Valley resident, and may only participate in one gift giving program.

Do I have to pay anything?

We do request a \$1 per child donation. It is not required to participate in the program as it is a donation request. This money does go back into the program.

When is the deadline to apply?

December 16th is the deadline to apply with local agencies that have the applications, but you can still stop by the workshop and apply up until our last day which is Dec. 21st

MAT-SU SPECIAL SANTA PROGRAM

FAQ's

Where do I turn in my application?

There are several ways to turn in your application.

- Mat-Su Special Santa Workshop 11/7 – 11/23 M-F from 10:00 to 4:00; 11/28 – 12/16 M-S 10:00 to 6:00
- The agency that referred you
- Alaska Family Services main office, 1825 S Chugach St. in Palmer
- Alaska Family Services WIC/Child Care Assistance window at 777 N Crusey St., Wasilla, Mat-Su Health Foundation Building.
- Or mail them to: 1825 S Chugach St., Palmer, AK 99645

What gifts can the children expect?

Each child is given 2-3 gifts, books if requested, and stocking stuffers.

When and where can I pick up my gifts?

There will be an information sheet attached to the application that lists the location of where the workshop is located that year. On the information sheet will also be the date and times based on your last name of when your pickup day will be.

How can I help the program?

There are several ways to be involved or give:

Host a toy drive or item drive like Legos or art supplies.

Become a Santa by sponsoring a child or children in a family, by buying gifts from their wish list. We will provide their wish list(s) so you know what items they want or need. If interested please send an email to specialsanta@akafs.org.

Donate money and we will do the shopping for you.

Share information about the Mat-Su Special Santa through your newsletters, Facebook etc.

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