

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 picked up from WIC offices, food banks, schools, and select daycares and churches starting Nov. 1st. A detailed list of application sites will be made available on our website www.specialsanta.net on Nov. 4th.

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 19th 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. 22nd

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Where do I turn in my application?

There are several ways to turn in your application.

- Mat-Su Special Santa Workshop after Sunday November 1st from 9:00 to 6:00. M-S
- The agency that referred you
- AFS building 1825 N. Chugach St. in Palmer
- AFS Child Care Assistance window at West Side Center 899 W. Commercial Drive by the Employment Center.
- Or mail them to: P.O. Box 1664, 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 matsu_santa@yahoo.com

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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