

2018-2019 FORWARD STEPS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

ABOUT FORWARD STEPS PROGRAM

Forward Steps helps Colorado foster youth achieve their dream of earning a post-secondary education.

Accepted scholars may enroll in an associate, bachelor, trade or certificate program. Our program provides assistance of up to \$9,000 per academic year to participants who are enrolled as full-time students at their institutions. Forward Steps also offers a limited number of part-time scholarships. In addition to financial assistance, Forward Steps scholars receive one-on-one mentoring, academic coaching, lifeskills training and community support.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Applicants must meet all the following criteria:

Applicants must have verifiable experience in the foster care system

First time applicants must apply before their 26th birthday

Applicants must be residents of Colorado and plan to attend (or are currently attending) Community College of Denver, University of Colorado Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, Front Range Community College, Red Rocks Community College or Colorado State University. Other Colorado colleges will be considered

Scholars must have earned a high school diploma or passed the GED before beginning their first semester of college

Applicants must meet federal financial aid requirements and have unmet need as determined by the FAFSA

To remain eligible, scholars must meet the following expectations:

- Maintain good standing as defined by your school
- Maintain and successfully complete all credit hours agreed upon with Forward Steps
- Achieve and maintain at least a 2.0 GPA per semester
- Participate in workshops and activities provided by Forward Steps
- Meet regularly with the Forward Steps Scholar Mentor
- Provide Forward Steps' staff with end of semester grades and mid-semester progress reports
- Reapply annually for scholarship renewal

HOW TO APPLY AND NEXT STEPS

Complete the following application, paying special attention to the checklist provided. The application and supporting documents may be submitted by e-mail to scholarship@forwardsteps.org or mailed to Forward Steps at: **370 Interlocken Boulevard, Suite 640, Broomfield, CO 80021**. Please contact Jennifer at (303) 404-9969 with any questions.

Eligible applicants will be contacted for an interview. Applications are reviewed as they are received; there is no deadline.

We look forward to working with you!

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

In order for your application packet to be considered complete, include all of the following documents:

Your completed application
A letter of recommendation from a case worker, Chafee worker, CASA advocate or Guardian ad Litem who can verify your time spent in foster care
A letter of recommendation from one of the following: academic advisor, foster parent, teacher or mentor
Your essay responses (essay questions are on the last page of this application)
A copy of your FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR)
Upon graduation, high school transcripts or a copy of your GED Include transcripts from any previously attended college
Signed "Confirmation of Foster Care Dependency Form"

PERSONAL DETAILS

First Name:

Last Name:

Any other name that you go by:

Phone:

E-Mail:

Best way to contact you:

Phone

E-mail

Text

Current Address:

City

State

ZIP

Date of Birth:

Current Age:

Dates in foster care:

Who is/was your most recent caseworker? From which county?

Phone Number:

E-Mail:

Do you have a Chafee worker? If yes, Chafee worker name and county:

Phone Number:

E-Mail:

Did you submit your 2018-2019 FAFSA? Yes No

Are you currently employed? Yes No

What is your housing plan while attending school?

College you plan to attend: MSU CCD CU-D RRCC CSU

FRCC Which FRCC campus?

What do you plan to study and why?

What are the obstacles to academic success and/or employment that you are currently facing?

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Need child care | No transportation | Having family problems |
| Need help with purchasing books/school supplies | | Need help getting food |
| Coping with a violent relationship | | No close family members |
| Mental health | History of substance abuse or other addiction | |
| Criminal records | Pregnant or parenting | Legal concerns (court date, probation, etc.) |
| Lack of health coverage | Learning disability | None Other |

List any school, community or volunteer activity in which you have participated:

How did you hear about Forward Steps?

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Please use the following format to complete two essays:

- 2-3 pages for each essay
- Double-spaced
- Name at the top of each page

ESSAY #1: Please include a brief autobiography. This may include (but is not limited to) why you are applying for this program, information about you, your family, your interests, or anything else that makes you unique.

ESSAY #2: For your second essay, please answer the following questions:

- A. Why do you want to pursue a post-secondary education? and
 - B. What do you hope to accomplish after graduating from your program?
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APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

Please read the following statement carefully before signing:

I certify that all of the information in this application is accurate. I understand that incomplete applications will not be reviewed. By signing below, I agree that my name, scholarship award amount, photo, and general information provided in this application may be used in materials published by Forward Steps.

Signature

Date