

## SCHOLARSHIPS-Frequently Asked Questions

**Who is eligible?** Awards are limited to residents of Berkeley, Morgan and Jefferson Counties, WV.

**Are part-time students eligible?** No. EWVCF scholarships are currently available for students enrolled or intending to enroll as **full-time** students at a college, university or other institution of higher education.

**Are scholarships open to graduate students?** Currently one scholarship, the J. Oakley Seibert Scholarship, is available to students planning to enter law school within 18 months of completing a 4-year degree.

**What's the difference between a Multi-Year and Renewable Scholarship? Multi-year scholarships** (Floyd and Isabel Jacques Memorial, Theodore K. Oates Nursing, and Wurzburg Family) are large awards received in one year, but paid out in annual installments over the course of two to four years of college attendance. Recipients of these awards do not need to submit a renewal application, but must provide proof of continued enrollment to receive each installment.

**Renewable scholarships** are paid in full in the year they are received. Yet recipients may apply to be considered for a renewed award in subsequent years. The Scholarship Criteria states which scholarships are renewable as well as renewal criteria. Students applying for a renewed scholarship must complete the Renewal Application.

**Must a student attend a college or university in West Virginia?** No. Scholarships are awarded to eligible students enrolled in colleges and universities throughout the United States, unless otherwise stated in the fund criteria.

**What expenses can scholarships cover?** Scholarships are made payable to the school, college, or university on behalf of the student. Scholarships may be used to offset tuition, fees, room and board, or any other line item in the Cost of Attendance determined by the school, college, or university.

**How are recipients selected?** Most scholarships recipients are selected based on their financial need and academic merit. However, the terms of some funds require that applicants meet other criteria such as ethnicity, gender, participation in sports, interest in a specific field of study, etc. Be sure to review the Scholarship Criteria for eligibility before selecting the scholarships for which you will apply.

**What is the average amount awarded?** Awards range from \$500 to \$5,000. Larger awards are paid in installments over the duration of a 2-4 year period.

**Can students send a photocopy of their academic transcripts?** Yes. Please submit the most recent transcript and make sure it contains: cumulative grade point average, class rank, and SAT/ACT scores.

**What if household income is relatively high?** There is no maximum income or financial cut-off. Some of our funds consider other criteria besides financial need, all students who meet eligibility requirements are encouraged to apply.

**When are decisions made?** Generally, decisions are made by the end of April and selected applicants are notified by the end of May.

**Can students reapply each year?** Students who received a *renewable scholarship* must reapply each year, using the Renewal Application. Receipt of an award for one academic year does not guarantee that an award will be granted in a subsequent year. Students who receive a *multi-year* scholarship must provide proof of continued enrollment before the next installment of their award is paid.

**Who should complete an essay?** All students applying for a scholarship must submit an essay. Selection committees use this information to assist in making their selection. Please refer to the application for essay details.

**How are awards paid?** Scholarship award checks are paid directly to the institution that the student is attending once enrollment at that institution is verified. For multi-year awards (Floyd and Isabel Jacques Memorial, Theodore K. Oates Nursing, and Wurzburg Family), the award is paid over a two or four year period. At this time, the Martin Luther King scholarship and N. Blaine Groves/Rotary scholarships are paid in equal installments for the fall and spring semesters.

**Will a Community Foundation award affect a student's financial aid package?**

Institutions/Colleges/Universities may adjust financial aid packages to reflect scholarships other than those granted by the college. Usually a college or university will first use an outside scholarship to replace unmet need, or reduce the amount of loans or work study before adjusting grants or scholarships. However, policies vary and students should check with their institutions' financial aid office.

## **APPLICATION**

Your completed application and all required materials must be received on or before the **February 28, 2019** deadline. **Please make sure to request copies of your transcript and recommendation letter(s) in time to allow you to meet this deadline. All students are encouraged to apply early!**

Submit your application and all required documents to:

Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation

229 East Martin Street, Suite 4

Martinsburg, WV 25401.

**Questions: Karin Hammann Dunn- [khdunn@ewvcf.org](mailto:khdunn@ewvcf.org) or call our office at: 304-264-0353**