

Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc.*

FRESH START SCHOLARSHIP

Academic Year 2019-2020

PURPOSE: Provide financial incentive through a renewable annual scholarship and offer mentoring assistance and networking opportunities to a woman returning to school to improve her life and opportunities.

- Eligibility:** Candidates must:
- Be female.
 - Be a U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident.
 - Be a resident of Delaware OR be currently employed in Delaware for at least the past 12 months.
 - Be at least 20 years of age and have a high school diploma or G.E.D.
 - Have had at least a two year break in education either after completing high school or during post-secondary (college) studies.
 - Be admitted to an accredited Delaware college in a two or four year degree program at the undergraduate level. (Students who have previously earned a bachelor's degree are not eligible to apply.)
 - Acquire a recommendation from a college representative, a nonprofit/government agency or an employer.
 - Have at least a C average if currently enrolled in college
 - Certify financial need.
 - Submit a completed application including a personal statement.
 - Be available for a brief telephone interview if a scholarship finalist.

Award: The number and amount of the awards will be determined annually prior to the fall semester but will in no event exceed the costs of tuition, fees, books and other direct educational expenses. Awards will be paid directly to the college prior to the beginning of each semester.

Application Checklist:

Applications are evaluated on the information supplied; therefore, answer all questions as completely as possible. All of the following materials must be submitted by mail to:

FSSF, PO Box 7784, Wilmington, DE 19803

or via email to FSSF@freshstartscholarship.org

- Completed application including ALL financial data
- Personal Statement
- Signed Consent
- Recommendation from a Social Service Agency or College/Employer Representative
- Official** copy of high school transcript or GED certificate OR, if applicable, copy of **Official** college transcripts

NOTE: Incomplete Applications will not be considered.

DEADLINE: COMPLETED APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MAY 15, 2019

Award Notification:

All applicants will be notified by mail on or before July 31, 2019

Awards are granted without regard to race, marital status, genetic information, color, age, religion, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin.

Questions may be directed to: FSSF (302-397-3440) or FSSF@freshstartscholarship.org

*The Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) organization.

FRESH START SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
Academic Year 2019-2020

PERSONAL DATA

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: Day _____ Evening _____ Email Address: _____

Last 4 digits of Social Security No.: _____ Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Marital Status: Married _____ Single _____ Separated _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____

Number and Ages of Dependents _____

Where did you hear about the Fresh Start Scholarship? Internet _____ Newspaper _____ Radio _____

College Representative _____ Social Service Agency _____ Facebook _____ Other _____

EDUCATION DATA

Name of College or University you are attending or plan to attend during Academic Year 2019-2020:

_____ Campus _____

Degree Expected: Bachelors _____ Associates _____ Major _____

Year in school next year: Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior _____ Number of Credits completed as of 5/2019 _____

Number of Semesters OR Credits remaining before graduation? Semesters _____ Credits _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____ If currently enrolled, cumulative GPA: _____ (ATTACH OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT)

Students who have completed less than one semester of college must attach copy of High School Transcript or GED.

Estimated annual costs:

Fall 2019 Semester tuition \$ _____ fees \$ _____ books \$ _____

Spring 2020 Semester: tuition \$ _____ fees \$ _____ books \$ _____

How many credit hours do you plan to take per semester? _____

Have you applied for or been awarded other scholarships or grants for the 2019-2020 academic year? (All applicants are encouraged to apply for Financial Aid from their institution.)

Name of Award	Amount	Check One
_____	\$ _____	Granted _____ Pending _____
_____	\$ _____	Granted _____ Pending _____

WORK EXPERIENCE

Describe your work experience for the **past four years** (if homemaker, please indicate). Indicate dates of employment for each job and approximate number of hours worked each week. List monthly amounts earned at each job.

Employer and Position	From-Mo/Yr	To-Mo/Yr	Hours/wk.	Monthly Salary/Wages

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please use submit an essay that answers the following questions (**maximum length two pages**): **Please note that your personal statement is an important factor in the selection process.**

- How you have spent your time since you were last in school on a full time basis?
- What barriers or challenges have you faced in trying to continue your education?
- What do you plan to do with the higher education that you are seeking?
- How will it improve your life and opportunities for yourself and your family, if appropriate?

FINANCIAL DATA

To be considered for an award, the section below must be filled out completely. You may submit tax forms and any other documents you feel would assist us in determining your financial need. **Check here if you will not file and are not required to file a 2018 U.S. Income Tax Return.** _____
(Refer to instructions below in completing this section.)

TOTAL 2018 Annual Income of Applicant \$ _____

TOTAL 2018 Annual Income of Spouse \$ _____

Adjusted 2018 Gross Income (FORM 1040 Line 7)
\$ _____

Total 2018 Federal Tax Paid (FORM 1040 Line 18)
\$ _____

2018 Yearly Untaxed Income and Benefits \$ _____

_____ Child Support
_____ Social Security
_____ Other - please specify _____

Monthly Housing Costs (Do not include \$\$ paid by Section 8)

Rent \$ _____ OR Mortgage Payment \$ _____

Total Cash, Checking, Savings, Cash Value of Stocks, etc.
\$ _____

Number of people in your household, # _____ include:

- yourself and your spouse if you have one
- your children, if you will provide more than half of their support from 7/1/2019 through 6/30/2020
- other people if they now live with you and you provide more than half of their support and will continue to provide more than half of their support from 7/1/2019 through 6/30/2020

Instructions for completing Financial Data Section

Total Income earned should be reported individually for both the applicant and applicant's spouse, if married.

Adjusted Gross Income can be found on IRS FORM 1040 (line 7) and is gross income reduced by specific adjustments as allowed by law. **Include adjusted gross income for spouse, if married.**

Total Federal Tax Paid includes the amount of federal income tax to be paid as reported on IRS FORM 1040 (line 18). This is not the amount withheld from employee paychecks. The amount paid should be adjusted by any refund or additional taxes paid. Do not include state taxes.

Untaxed Income and Benefits include any other income or benefits of applicant and applicant's spouse, if married, not included in the adjusted gross income figure. Do not include untaxed contributions to retirement plans.

Housing Costs include monthly rent or mortgage payments less any amount paid through Section 8 funding.

Total Cash, Checking, Savings, Cash Value of Stocks, etc. includes liquid assets that can be used for educational purposes. Not included are IRA, 401K, or other retirement plans.

REFERENCES

List the name, address, relationship, email and phone number of Two references who are NOT members of your family:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Relationship _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ Relationship _____

CONSENT

I, the undersigned applicant, hereby agree that, should I be awarded the *Fresh Start Scholarship, The Fresh Start Scholarship Foundation, Inc.* may use my name and picture in a press release and related publicity announcing the award. It is understood that the press release may include the qualifications required for the award and disclosure of the social service agency and/or college representative that endorsed the candidate's application, in addition to some biographical information from the applicant's application. I certify that the essay is my personal work and creation and I agree to provide proof of information I have given on this form, including a copy of my U.S. Income Tax form, if requested. *Falsification of information may result in termination of any scholarship granted.*

Applicant's Signature Required _____ Date _____

Personal Statement

