

**Washington State Foster Youth
2009-2010 Common Application
for College Financial Assistance**



Program Overviews

Instructions Mail a copy of your application to each program of interest.

Current and former foster youth in Washington state can use this application to apply for up to five of the programs below, each program may provide money to help pay for college and other training beyond high school.

1. Educational and Training Voucher Program
2. Seattle University's Fostering Scholars Program
3. Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth
4. Passport to College
5. Treehouse Coaching-to-College Scholarship

Tips

- You may want to find someone to help you fill out this application and have someone proofread your essay.
- Make sure you give yourself plenty of time to complete the application and always keep a copy
- Write clearly and fill in all the blanks.
- Contact each program to find out if they need more information from you.
- Keep a copy of your application and supporting documents for yourself.
- Turn in your application as soon as you complete it as funds may be limited.
- Schools must be accredited or meet other licensing criteria to be funded.

Program Eligibility Checklists

You must meet these two requirements to qualify for any funding listed on the next 2 pages.

1. I am a senior on track to graduate from high school, or enrolled in a GED program, or have graduated from high school or received a GED.	Date of high school/GED completion (Month/year):
2. I plan to enroll or am enrolled full-time or part-time (or accepted for next term) in an accredited post-secondary program. Name of college: 3. I have or will complete and file the Free Application for Federal Aid, FAFSA, for the 2009-2010 academic year. You can do this beginning January 1, 2009. Complete the application as soon as possible after this date. You can apply at www.FAFSA.ed.gov	

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To apply for a program, you must meet the additional eligibility requirements listed below each program name. You must also complete and mail to each program all documents that each program requires.

Educational and Training Voucher (ETV)

YES The ETV program can help pay *up to \$5000 per year* towards the cost of attendance for current and former foster youth up to age 21. If youth are enrolled before age 21, this program can be extended to age 23. ETV can help pay for tuition, fees, books, room and board, school supplies and living expenses. Questions, please contact etwwash@dshs.wa.gov or 1.877.4EDU.ETV (1-877-433-8388).

- I am 16-21 years old or first enrolled in the ETV program prior to my 21st birthday and have not reached my 23rd birthday.
- I am currently, or was until emancipation, or was until I was adopted after age 16, recognized as a dependent youth in Washington State or Tribal out-of-home care.

Mail the following to: ETV; 1115 Washington St. SE; PO Box 45710; Olympia, WA 98504 or fax to 360-902-7588 Attn: ETV Program

- Copy of this completed application
- Copy of your college financial aid award letter or if you have not received your award letter yet, your Student Aid Report (SAR) or a copy of your completed 2009-2010 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). You can fill out your FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov
- Letter of acceptance to college or class schedule

Seattle University Fostering Scholars

YES The Fostering Scholars Program at Seattle University (SU) provides undergraduate financial, personal, and educational support to current and former foster youth attending SU. The scholarship provides year-round on campus room and board, as well as, funding for tuition, books, and supplies. Additionally, the program provides students with academic support, advocacy, and mentorship. In order to be eligible for the scholarship, you must first apply for acceptance to Seattle University. For questions or to receive the Fostering Scholars Program Application, contact (206) 296-5310 or email montoyac@seattleu.edu.

- I am a participant in Treehouse's Coaching to College program OR the Foster Care to College Mentor Program
- I am 17-25 years old (or legally emancipated if still a minor)
- I have applied or plan to apply to Seattle University as either a Freshman or Transfer Student
- I have applied for financial aid by completing the FAFSA by the February 1st the *priority filing date*.

I will need to complete a brief *Fostering Scholars Supplemental Application*. For the application, contact (206) 296-5310.

Scholarship Application Deadline is February 19, 2009.

Mail the following to: Fostering Scholars Program, Seattle University, 901 12th Avenue, P.O. Box 222000, Seattle, WA 98122

- Copy of this completed application
- Fostering Scholars Supplemental Application
- Completed "Ward of the Court" verification letter documenting your "Ward of the Court" foster care status

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Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth

YES The Governors' Scholarship provides \$2,000 to \$4,000 per year, for five years, for youth who have or will emancipate from foster care in Washington State to attend college. For more information or to download the application, visit www.collegesuccessfoundation.org/gf. With questions, call 1-877-655-4097 or email governorsscholarship@collegesuccessfoundation.org

- I am currently, or was until emancipation, recognized as a dependent youth in Washington State, federal or tribal out-of-home care.
- I am a senior at a Washington State high school and will graduate with a high school diploma (not a GED) during the 2008-09 academic year.
- I have a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.0 or above.
- I will have resided in Washington State for three academic years prior to graduating from high school.
- I plan to enroll in college full-time and complete a program of study at an eligible WA college.

Scholarship Application Deadline is November 10, 2008.

Mail the following to Governors' Scholarship; 1605 NW Sammamish Rd. Ste 200; Issaquah, Wa. 98027

- Copy of this completed application
- Essay Questions
- Letter of Recommendation
- High School Transcript
- Completed "Ward of the Court" verification letter documenting your "Ward of the Court" foster care status

Passport to College

YES The Passport to College Promise Scholarship Program provides up to about \$6,900 per year, for up to five years, to youth who spent at least one year in foster care after their 16th birthday, and emancipate from care after January 1, 2007. For more information on the Passport to College Promise Program, visit www.hecb.wa.gov/passport. If you have questions about the program, you may e-mail passporttocollege@hecb.wa.gov or call 1-888-535-0747.

- I spent at least one year in care after my 16th birthday.
- I emancipated from foster care on or after January 1, 2007.
- I am a Washington State resident.
- I will be enrolled at least half-time in an eligible college before my 22nd birthday.
- I have not earned a bachelor's or professional degree.
- I am not pursuing a degree in Theology.

Mail a copy of this application to: Passport to College Scholarship, P.O. Box 43430, Olympia, WA. 98504-3430

Treehouse Coaching-to-College Scholarship (for participants residing in King County)

YES You must be enrolled in the Treehouse CTC program to apply for this scholarship. The CTC program assists King County youth in foster care graduate from high school and plan for post-secondary opportunities. Participants of the Treehouse CTC Program are eligible to receive up to \$2500 per year based upon the cost of attendance. With questions, please call Frank Nam at (206) 267-5168.

- I am a participant in Treehouse Coaching to College program.
- I am not eligible for ETV or the YMCA Transitions Scholarship.
- I have a current/open DCFS case file in King County, or am a former foster youth who was in King County foster care between the ages of 14 – 18 for a minimum of one year and have not reached my 22nd birthday.
- I have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above.

Mail a copy of this application to: Treehouse; Coaching-to-College Scholarship; 2100 24th Avenue South, Suite 200; Seattle, WA 98144

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Print Name (First Last): _____

Part One – Applicant Information

Today's Date (date application completed): _____

Date of Birth (M/D/Y): _____ Last four digits of Social Security # _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____ - _____ E-mail: _____

Student Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

County: _____ Gender: Female Male Other

High School: _____ High School Principal: _____

High School Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

The following items are collected for research and program development purposes:

Are you a U.S. Citizen? Yes No If no, are you a legal permanent resident? Yes No Alien Registration # _____

If English is not your first language, what language do you speak best? _____

Ethnicity (how you best describe yourself; please read all choices and choose only one):

- African American Indian Asian, Asian American Pacific Islander
- Black American White or Caucasian Hispanic – of European ancestry
- Hispanic/Latino—of Mexican, Central or South American or Caribbean (Cuban, Puerto Rican, Dominican) ancestry
- Multi-Racial (please specify) _____ Other (please specify) _____

Will you be responsible for a child while in college? Yes No If so, please explain: _____

How did you learn about these programs? _____

Would you be interested in volunteering for any of these programs? Yes (list program(s)) _____ No

Please check the programs below if you would like information to determine if you are eligible to participate.

- Foster Care to 21 Medicaid to 21 Foster Care to College Mentor Program

Please provide alternative contact information for an adult, who stays in contact with you:

Name of Adult Contact: _____ (First, Last) E-mail: _____

Relationship to Applicant: _____ Do you reside with this adult contact? Yes No

Home Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Other Phone: (____) _____ - _____

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Part Two- Enrollment Information

I will be attending: Full-time (12 credits or more) Half-time (6-11 credits) Less than half-time (1-5 credits)

In 2009-2010, I plan to enroll the following terms (check all boxes that apply):

Summer 2009 Fall Winter Spring Summer 2010 Other _____

Please identify the final degree/ certificate you expect to receive:

Bachelor Degree Associate Degree Voc/technical Certificate Other _____

Please list the colleges or programs to which you have applied, or will apply, for admission:

Name _____ Anticipated field of study _____

Applied and admitted Applied, still waiting to hear (Date applied : _____) Have not yet applied

Name _____ Anticipated field of study _____

Applied and admitted Applied, still waiting to hear (Date applied : _____) Have not yet applied

Name _____ Anticipated field of study _____

Applied and admitted Applied, still waiting to hear (Date applied : _____) Have not yet applied

Part Three- Essay

Required if applying for Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth and/or Seattle University Fostering Scholars Program

Please write two essays in 200-300 words each making sure to address each of the questions. Please type your essays on a separate sheet of paper. Include your name and date of birth at the top right corner of each page.

Essay 1

Explain your interest in college and where you think it may take you? What have you done to prepare yourself to pursue your higher education?

Essay 2

Describe a significant challenge you have faced that illustrates your perseverance. How did you deal with that challenge? How did you persist toward your academic goals in the face of that challenge? Explain how having dealt with that challenge has shaped who you are today and influence your educational and career plans for the future.

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Part Four– Personal Letter of Recommendation
For Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth Applicants Only

Applicant:

Please fill out the top section of this form. Then ask your personal recommender—someone who is familiar with your personal character—to complete the bottom section and write your personal letter of recommendation. Remember that we cannot accept letters of recommendation from relatives, foster parents or foster family members, spouses, boy/girlfriends or peers. Please make sure the person you select as your personal recommender feels comfortable giving you a positive recommendation.

Applicant Name: _____ (First, Last) Phone Number: (_____) _____

Applicant's Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I give permission for _____ (name of individual or agency) to release the information requested for my Scholarship application.

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

Submit this form and your *personal* letter of recommendation with your scholarship application.

Recommender:

The applicant named above has requested your recommendation to complete his/her scholarship application. Please complete this form and write a separate letter of recommendation for the applicant, which addresses each of the three criteria below.

1. Resiliency – the ability to persist toward educational goals in the face of challenges.
2. Openness to receive support – the willingness to seek and use support from others when needed to navigate through educational obstacles.
3. Educational and career goal-setting – the ability to set educational and career goals and take intermediate steps to reach these goals.

Recommender Name: _____ (First, Last)

Title _____ Employer's Name: _____

Relationship to Applicant _____ Phone Number(s): (_____) _____ Email _____

Employer's Mailing Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please remember to enclose this form and your letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope and return it to the applicant. The applicant must submit this envelope with their scholarship application which is due November 10, 2008.



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Part Five – Application Consent and Certification

I certify by my signature and initials (please initial before each line and sign at the bottom):

____ I DO NOT want my application provided to (checking any of the programs below will result in your application not being forwarded to that program):

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> College Success Foundation | <input type="checkbox"/> Seattle University Fostering Scholars | <input type="checkbox"/> Independent Living Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education Coordinating Board | <input type="checkbox"/> Treehouse | <input type="checkbox"/> FCTC Mentor Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orphan Foundation of America | | <input type="checkbox"/> None |

____ To the best of my knowledge, all information submitted in this application is complete and accurate and the essay accompanying this form is my own work. I understand that if information is found to be false, it is sufficient cause for rejection or dismissal from the programs. (*Education and Training Voucher, Governors' Scholarship for Foster Youth, Higher Education Coordinating Board, Seattle University Fostering Scholars Program, Treehouse Coaching to College*)

____ I give permission to the Department of Social and Health Services to provide verification of my foster care status with the above programs or any institution to which I have applied, been admitted or I am enrolled.

____ I understand that it in order to determine an appropriate award amount and/or to determine my continuing eligibility for an award, the agency or organization assisting me may need to discuss my application and the information in my application with one of the other participating organizations, including the College Success Foundation, Department of Social and Health Services, Higher Education Coordinating Board, Foster Care to College Mentor programs, Orphan Foundation of America, Seattle University Fostering Scholars Program, Treehouse, and Independent Living Programs, as well as with the admissions, financial aid and student service offices at any college, university or vocational or technical program which I attend or to which I may be applying for admission. I agree to this exchange of information about me.

____ I understand that my educational records are confidential and cannot be disclosed without my consent. With that understanding I give permission to any college, institution or vocational or technical program that I am attending, have attended, or to which I am applying to provide information about me to the following programs and organizations for the purpose of evaluating my application or assisting me in obtaining educational funding: College Success Foundation, Department of Social and Health Services, Higher Education Coordinating Board, Orphan Foundation of America, Seattle University Fostering Scholars Program, Treehouse, Independent Living Programs.

Signature _____

Date _____