

Eckerd Family Foundation Policy on Scholarship Initiative

The Eckerd Family Foundation will annually allocate funds from the general grants budget for the purpose of providing scholarships to youth meeting the eligibility criteria and who are served by EFF designated and qualifying organizations.

Scholarship Parameters

Scholarships will include categories of support generally not considered to fall within the traditional or ordinary definition. Scholarship will be defined as one or more of the following:

- * Tuition (vocational school, community college or university)
- * Student fees
- * Housing
- * Meals
- * Transportation
- * Computer
- * Clothing
- * Health insurance
- * Child care
- * GED or SAT prep classes
- * Tutoring
- * Apprenticeship or internship
- * Special opportunities for growth such as summer programs, outward bound, etc.
- * Other expenses as deemed necessary and appropriate by the sponsoring organization's scholarship review committee

Scholarships will be limited to no more than \$5,000 annually for any student. A percentage of the scholarship may be considered a "loan" and that loan amount must be paid off in community service hours. Reapplication for successive years will be based on student performance.

Criteria for Eligibility of Scholarship Recipients

Youth must:

- * Be between the ages of 12 and 24
- * Establish economic need
- * Have one or more risk factors that challenges the transition into adulthood
- * Not be truant
- * Be drug, alcohol and crime free
- * Should be volunteering or have some community service involvement
- * Have a grant point average of at least 2.5 or equivalent

Sponsoring Organization Responsibilities

Organizations who may access the scholarship program for their clients will:

- * be current or former EFF grant recipients in good standing;
- * demonstrate the ability to manage the scholarship program, collect data and report on results; and,
- * establish a scholarship review committee that includes youth representation for their organization.

Process

Each year, the EFF staff will recommend eligible organizations to participate in the Scholarship Initiative. Those organizations and a funding recommendation will be presented to the Board of Directors.

- * All prospective scholarship recipients will complete a standard application with required letters of reference.
- * The organization's scholarship review committee will review all applications.
- * All scholarship recipients will sign an agreement with the conditions of the scholarship.
- * The organization will forward approved scholarship awards to EFF for disbursement of scholarship funds.
- * EFF will report on scholarship activities every six months to the Board of Directors and participating organizations.