

Ford Opportunity Program

Intended for: College students who are single parents.

Number awarded: Up to 50 from Oregon and Siskiyou County, California.

ELIGIBILITY

This is a need-based, renewable scholarship. To demonstrate financial need, each applicant must file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* and not exceed the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) limit, as established by the Foundation. Scholarship offers may be rescinded if an applicant's EFC changes prior to fall term of the application year and he or she no longer meets the financial need criteria. The FAFSA should be filed as soon as possible after October 1 and must not have a rejected status at the time of the scholarship application review (mid-March).

* Undocumented students should refer to www.tfff.org/undocumented for qualification requirements.



APPLICANT MUST ALSO

- **Be a resident of Oregon or Siskiyou County,** California, and meet all residency requirements for college of attendance.
- **Be a single parent with custody** of dependent children (18 years of age or younger) and be the head of household as defined by IRS regulations.
- Have a **high school diploma or GED**, or be about to complete high school or GED, or be a continuing college student.
- Have a **minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 or GED of 660** (2650 for 2002-2013), or have a counselor, advisor or teacher submit a Special Recommendation online as part of the application.
- Be seeking **an associate or bachelor's degree with at least one full year remaining in program.** Students with a previous bachelor's degree are not eligible.
- **Attend full time, on campus***, at a Title IV eligible public or private (not for-profit) college, based in their home state of Oregon or California, beginning in fall of the application year. *(Note: Residents of Siskiyou County may attend OIT, SOU or KCC if they qualify for in-state tuition.)*
- Have no felony convictions, or have **satisfied the terms** of any felony conviction by August 1 of the application year.

* Students taking distance learning or online courses exclusively are not eligible except for Oregon nursing students at Oregon Health & Science University.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Each successful candidate will demonstrate:

- **Initiative and commitment** to roles in school, home and/or community activities.
- **A concern for others** through contributions to volunteer projects and/or family needs.
- **Good character.**
- **Work ethic.** Responsibility, initiative and skill-building through paid or unpaid work experiences.
- **An ability to clearly communicate** personal strengths and goals both in writing and verbally.
- **An ability to succeed academically** in college as demonstrated by a high school or college GPA, coursework and standardized test scores.

All finalists are required to be interviewed and must submit a term-by-term education plan and proof of head-of-household status prior to their interview.

GRADUATE STUDY

Ford Opportunity Scholars who successfully complete their bachelor's degree may be eligible to apply for up to two years of graduate-level funding.

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT

This is a variable, need-based award of up to 90% of the recipient's unmet financial need with a limit of \$40,000 per year. Scholarship award amounts are calculated annually and are dependent on the college Cost of Attendance (including tuition, fees, room & board, personal costs, etc.), less the federal Expected Family Contribution (EFC) and other scholarships or gift aid. The formula for calculating the Ford Opportunity scholarship award is shown below:

Formula:

| | |
|---------|--|
| | Cost of Attendance (COA) for the academic year |
| (minus) | EFC (from FAFSA) |
| (minus) | All grants and other scholarship aid |
| (minus) | Other resources (e.g., veteran's benefits) |

Result x 90% = Ford Opportunity Award
(Minimum of \$1,000/Maximum of \$40,000)

Example:

| | | |
|---------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| | \$ 24,000 | COA for the academic year |
| (minus) | \$ 500 | EFC (from FAFSA) |
| (minus) | \$ 8,250 | All other grants & scholarship aid |
| (minus) | \$ 0 | Other resources |

\$ 15,250 x 90% = \$13,725 Ford Opportunity Award

TO APPLY

Apply online through the Office of Student Access and Completion (OSAC) at www.OregonStudentAid.gov.

Application opens in late fall.

DEADLINE

All application materials must be submitted online by 5 pm PST on **March 1** of each year.

