



Ford Opportunity Scholarship Program

Oregon

Hallie E. Ford and The Ford Family Foundation established the Ford Opportunity Program to provide scholarships to college students who are single parents. Each year, up to 50 applicants are selected from Oregon to receive a Ford Opportunity scholarship, and up to 5 applicants are selected from Siskiyou County, California.

Eligibility

This is a need-based scholarship. To demonstrate financial need, each applicant must file a *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* by March 1. The FAFSA must not be in a "rejected" status at the time of application review. *Scholarship offers may be rescinded if an applicant's FAFSA changes prior to fall term of the application year and he or she no longer meets the financial need criteria.*

Applicant must also:

- Be a resident of Oregon and meet all residency requirements for college of attendance
- Be a single parent with custody of dependent child/children (18 years of age or younger) and be the head of household as defined by IRS regulations. The intention of this scholarship is to assist single parents *who do not have the support of a domestic partner*
- Have a high school diploma or GED, or be about to complete high school or GED, or be a continuing college student
- Have a GPA of at least a 3.00 or, if not, submit a *Special Recommendation Form* online, as part of the OSAC eApp
- Seek a bachelor's degree (and not previously have earned a bachelor's degree). Recipient may attend a community college, but only with the intention of transferring and obtaining a bachelor's degree
- Attend full time, on campus, at a public or private, non-profit, eligible college or university based in Oregon, beginning in fall of the application year
- Have no felony convictions, or have satisfied the terms of any felony conviction by August 1 of the application year

Selection Criteria

Each successful candidate will demonstrate:

- Concern for others and contribution of time and energy to volunteer projects and/or service organizations
- Motivation and desire to contribute to personal success through paid work experience
- Leadership ability through participation in school and community activities
- An ability to succeed in college
- An ability to clearly communicate personal strengths and goals

Scholarship Amount

This is a variable, need-based award of up to 90% of the recipient's unmet financial need with a limit of \$25,000 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 \$25,000)

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

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

To Apply

Apply online through the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) at www.GetCollegeFunds.org/eApp.html. The 2010-11 Oregon Scholarship eApp Workbook is available after October 15, through most Oregon high schools and colleges. **Deadline:** All application materials must be submitted online by March 1 of each year.

Contact Information

The Ford Family Foundation Scholarship Office
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Interviews are required for all finalists.