

Ford Scholars Program

Oregon

Kenneth W. Ford established the Ford Scholars Program to provide scholarships to students who would otherwise find it very difficult to meet the expenses associated with the pursuit of an undergraduate degree. Each year, up to 100 Ford Scholars are selected from Oregon to receive a Ford Scholars scholarship, and up to 20 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 *Scholarship offers may be rescinded if an applicant’s FAFSA changes prior to the fall term and he or she no longer meets the financial need criteria.*

Applicant must also:

- Be a resident of Oregon
- Be either: (1) **a high school graduate** (or the equivalent) and never have enrolled full time in a 2- or 4-year college, or (2) **a community college student** ready to transfer as a junior to a 4-year college in the fall. *Students are not eligible if they have already started full time at a 4-year college or have previously earned a bachelor’s degree*
- Have a GPA of 3.00 or better (or a *Special Recommendation Form - www.GetCollegeFunds.org/ford_recommend.html*)
- 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 before applying

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), other scholarships or gift aid, and a \$1,000 academic year work expectation. The formula for calculating the Ford Scholars scholarship award is shown below:

Formula:

Cost of Attendance for the academic year
 (minus) EFC (from FAFSA)
 (minus) Ford Work Expectation
 (minus) All grants and other scholarship aid
 (minus) Other resources (e.g., veteran’s benefits)

Result x 90% = Ford Scholars Award (maximum of \$25,000)

Example:

\$ 16,000 Cost of Attendance for the academic year
 (minus) \$ 500 EFC (from FAFSA)
 (minus) \$ 1,000 Ford Work Expectation
 (minus) \$ 3,800 All grants and other scholarship aid
 (minus) \$ 0 Other resources (e.g., veteran’s benefits)

\$ 10,700 x 90% = \$9,630 Ford Scholars Award

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

Interviews are required for all semifinalists.

Summer Conferences and Academics

Recipients who accept this scholarship must acknowledge a responsibility to attend the Foundation’s summer leadership conferences and maintain satisfactory academic progress while in college.

Graduate Study

Ford 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 2009-10 Oregon Scholarship eApp Workbook is available after October 15, through most Oregon high schools and colleges. **Deadline:** All application materials must be submitted online or received by March 1 of each year.