



2023 Shine-A-Light Scholarship for Youth

Guidelines

This year, Children's Fund is awarding several scholarships to deserving youth. All Youth Applicants and their Nominators (case manager) should review the Shine-A-Light Scholarship Guidelines and Application to ensure they qualify for the scholarship.

Who can apply for this scholarship?

All San Bernardino County foster youth who are: graduating high school this year, former foster youth currently enrolled in a college or accredited vocational school, Extended Foster Care Youth, and other vulnerable youth.

Is an Essay required to apply for this scholarship?

Yes. The Youth Applicant will write an essay (500-600 words) answering the following questions:

- ✓ *What life experiences have shaped who you are today?*
- ✓ *Who in your life has been your biggest influence?*
- ✓ *From a financial standpoint, what impact would this scholarship have on your education and your future professional goals?*

The Nominator (case manager) will also need to submit a Recommendation Statement and complete the application.

Who can nominate a youth for this scholarship?

Nominations may be made by the youth's current case manager. Some examples of case managers include:

Social worker (i.e.-Children and Family Services, Foster Family Agency)

- ✓ Group Home Counselor
- ✓ Probation Officer
- ✓ Department of Behavioral Health Case Manager
- ✓ Foster Youth Liaison
- ✓ Homeless Youth Liaison
- ✓ CASA Worker
- ✓ Mentor
- ✓ Teacher or tutor

The case manager will submit a complete packet which consists of (1) the Nominator's Recommendation Statement, and (2) the application, filled out by the Nominator on the youth's behalf, and (3) the Youth Applicant Essay to Children's Fund.

What is the selection process?

The scholarship selection committee consists of various Children's Fund board, staff and committee members. The only information the committee has to review is the Youth Applicant Essay and the Nominator's Recommendation Statement. The more detailed information provided, the more informed decision they can make.

Timeline

March 31, 2023	Scholarship packet due to Children's Fund
April 7, 2023	Youth selected to receive the scholarship will be notified
April 7, 2023	Youth not selected will be notified

How do I submit the application?

The Nominator will complete the following steps:

1. Have your Youth Applicant write their essay and submit to you.
2. Complete the application pdf.
3. Attach your Recommendation Statement about the youth. Please provide some insight into their lives.
4. Attach the Youth Applicant's Essay. Ensure that the youth has answered the required questions and has not exceeded the 600-word maximum. The more the selection committee knows about the youth, the better.

All application packets must be received by **March 31, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.** Deliver the application packets to Children's Fund:

By Email

Email the application packet which consists of the Application pdf, Nominator's Recommendation Statement, and the Youth Applicant's Essay to Children's Fund at Paris@childrensfund.org by **March 31, 2023 at 5:00 pm.**

Questions? Please contact Amber Nelson-Thorneycroft at 909.379.0000 or email Amber@childrensfund.org.

The scholarship guidelines and application can be found at www.childrensfund.org on the homepage. Look for the Shine-A-Light Application icon.