



THE DENVER FOUNDATION

HELEN M. MCLORAIN OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Program

The Helen M. McLoraine Opportunity Scholarship Program was created to provide educational scholarships for individuals who have had to face extraordinary or challenging circumstances, have actively taken steps to improve their lives, and are committed to advancing their education. This program is open to clients and former clients of the nonprofit agencies listed here:

1. Boys and Girls Clubs:
 - Black Canyon Boys and Girls Clubs, Montrose & Olathe, CO
 - Boys and Girls Clubs of Chaffee County, Salida & Buena Vista, CO
 - Boys and Girls Clubs of Craig and Steamboat, Craig, CO
 - Boys and Girls Clubs of La Plata County, Durango, CO
 - Boys and Girls Clubs of South Park, Fairplay & Bailey, CO
 - Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley, Alamosa, CO
 - Boys and Girls Clubs of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ignacio, CO
2. Challenged Athletes Foundation, San Diego, CA
3. Emily Krzyzewski Center, Durham, NC
4. Escuela de Guadalupe, Denver, CO
5. Excelsior Youth Center, Aurora, CO
6. Mount Saint Vincent Home, Denver, CO
7. On Our Own, Minneapolis, MN
8. Physically Handicapped Actors and Musical Artists League (PHAMALY), Denver, CO
9. Urban Peak, Denver, CO
10. Warren Village, Denver, CO
11. WINGS Foundation, Lakewood, CO

Eligibility

Students who meet ALL of the following criteria are encouraged to apply:

1. Clients, or former clients, of one of the seventeen nonprofit organizations participating in the program. To be eligible to apply, former clients must have received services within fifteen years of the application deadline.
2. Completed the criteria listed for their organization by the application deadline (see the following page)
3. Currently enrolled at an accredited post-secondary school in the United States and/or be planning to study full-time or part-time for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Please note that individuals that are related to a member of the scholarship selection committee or a Denver Foundation staff or board member are not eligible to apply.

Eligibility Criteria (broken down by participating nonprofit)

1. Boys and Girls Clubs:

- Black Canyon Boys and Girls Clubs, Montrose & Olathe, CO
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Chaffee County, Salida & Buena Vista, CO
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Craig and Steamboat, Craig, CO
- Boys and Girls Clubs of La Plata County, Durango, CO
- Boys and Girls Clubs of South Park, Fairplay & Bailey, CO
- Boys and Girls Clubs of the San Luis Valley, Alamosa, CO
- Boys and Girls Clubs of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Ignacio, CO

Applicants must:

- have been involved with the Club for at least three years. The three years do not have to be the three years prior to attending a post-secondary school, but at least one year must have been completed during high school as either junior staff or as a member who participated fifty days during the year; and
- served as junior staff for a full year **or** have participated in at least three of the following small group programs during their three years: Smart Moves, Torch Club, Keystone Club, Youth of the Year, Sports Club, Healthy Habits, Tutoring, Goals for Graduation, or Goals for Growth; and
- have completed some service learning at the Club, in the community, or at their place of worship.

2. Challenged Athletes Foundation, San Diego, CA

Applicants must:

- have qualified for and received a grant from The Challenged Athletes Foundation for equipment, training, and competition expenses; and
- reside in the state of Colorado.

3. Emily Krzyzewski Center, Durham, NC

Applicants must:

- be endorsed by both a staff member and the student's adult leader; and
- have successfully participated in the Scholars to College out of school programs continuously for at least two-three years; and preferably, will have also participated in the Pioneer Scholars out of school programs continuously for at least three years.

4. Escuela de Guadalupe, Denver, CO

Applicants must:

- have attended Escuela de Guadalupe for at least one full year; and
- have been an active member of Escuela de Guadalupe's Graduate Support Program for at least three full years.

5. Excelsior Youth Center, Aurora, CO

Applicants must:

- have successfully completed their treatment program at the time of application or be within 2 months of completing their program; and
- submit a letter of recommendation on Excelsior letterhead signed by the Executive Director. This letter must include Excelsior's endorsement that the applicant is capable of handling the demands of college life as evidence by: a supportive living environment, adequate transportation, housing, food, health insurance, no current substance abuse problems, and appropriate day care if applicable. The letter must also include the date that the applicant is/was a client and describe the applicant's motivation, character, and chance for success in completing the program that she has chosen. **Please note that applicants from Excelsior should submit this letter instead of the letters requested in the application.**

6. Mount Saint Vincent Home, Denver, CO

Applicants must:

- have participated for a combination of at least six months in the residential, day treatment, family therapy, or Aspen House programs; and
- after leaving Mount Saint Vincent Home's programs, have moved successfully to a lower intensity placement level, such as a group home, foster family, or returned to their biological family; and
- work with the Mount Saint Vincent Home's Clinical Team to develop clearly defined educational goals, in compliance with their case plan; and
- have provided volunteer service hours and/or shown an interest in other people/children in need while at or subsequent to their time at Mount Saint Vincent Home.

7. On Our Own, Minneapolis, MN

Applicants must have been a member of On Our Own for at least one full year.

8. Physically Handicapped Actors and Musical Artists League (PHAMALY), Denver, CO

Applicants must:

- have a physical, cognitive, or developmental disability as defined by the ADA; and
- be currently involved with PHAMALY in some capacity (performing, production, outreach, volunteering, and/or a workshop participant); and
- have also performed or participated in some capacity in at least three PHAMALY productions or outreach programs in the last three years.

9. Urban Peak, Denver, CO

Applicants must:

- have completed Urban Peak's Job Readiness Training or have shown stability in the workforce;
- have earned, or be about to complete, a GED or high school diploma – either through Urban Peak or another agency/school; and
- be in compliance with their case plan; and
- have clear goals and direction for the future.

10. Warren Village, Denver, CO

Applicants must:

- have been a resident for at least six months;
- have worked with their Family Advocate at Warren Village to develop clearly defined educational goals; and
- have completed the following within their first six months of residency;
 - participated in at least twelve Warren Village Life Skills Classes including, but not limited to, classes focusing on parenting, home ownership, personal finances, health, and nutrition,
 - met with their Family Advocate at least six times for personal and professional coaching,
 - participated in at least three Warren Village resident/community events; and
 - provided at least three volunteer service hours including, but not limited to, helping in their child's school activities.

11. WINGS Foundation, Lakewood, CO

Applicants must:

- be current or former WINGS Foundation support group members who have completed membership applications; and
- have utilized the WINGS support group program for a minimum of six months; and
- have attended a minimum of 25 WINGS support group sessions and documented this attendance through their group's sign-in sheet.

Award

Scholarships of varying amounts will be awarded once each year through a competitive process based on academic achievement/potential, recommendation letters, financial need, and a personal statement. Most awards will be in the \$2,000-\$5,000 dollar range, but awards may be higher or lower depending on an individual's circumstances and expected expenses. Individuals who have received an award from this program in the past and are still enrolled in school are encouraged to apply for additional funding. Awards can be used toward tuition, fees, and required books and supplies for full-time or part-time undergraduate or graduate study at technical school, community college, or four-year college or university for the 2015-2016 academic year.