
THE HELEN M. MCLORAIN OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

A SCHOLARSHIP FUND OF THE DENVER FOUNDATION

Scholarships for Current and Former Clients of Selected Nonprofit Agencies

Born in Chicago in 1918, Helen M. McLoraine was a pioneer who, in the 1950's, put on a hard hat, learned about the oil industry, and broke new ground for women to assume leadership roles in business. She studied business at the University of Chicago and was a long time resident of Winnetka, Illinois with her husband Frank McLoraine who was a lawyer. Helen moved to Denver in 1985, several years after the death of her husband, and lived in Denver until her death in January, 2003.

Helen was deeply influenced by her mother's dedication to philanthropy and became a generous benefactor in the areas of education, youth social welfare, figure skating, and medical research. She was especially committed to small nonprofit organizations with great missions and small resources. A gift from her estate was used to create this 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 seventeen nonprofit agencies listed on pages two and three. Students who meet the eligibility criteria are invited to apply for a scholarship.

Scholarships of varying amounts are awarded once each year through a competitive process based on academic achievement/potential, recommendation letters, financial need, and a personal statement.

Most awards are 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.

Applicants can be full-time or part-time students taking undergraduate or graduate classes at a vocational school, technical school, community college, or four-year college or university. Students of all ages are welcome to apply. Classes must be taken for credit and recipients must use their awards for the upcoming academic year (summer, fall, winter/spring). Awards can be used toward tuition, fees, and required books and supplies.

Eligibility

1. Applicants must be 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. Applicants must have completed the criteria listed for their organization by the application deadline.
3. Applicants must be 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 2012-13 academic year.

Application forms for 2012-13 scholarships will be available on February 1, 2012 on The Denver Foundation's website at www.denverfoundation.org (select "Scholarships").

Deadline

The application deadline for awards for the 2012-13 academic year will be **April 18, 2012**. Please note that this deadline is taken seriously. Incomplete and late applications will not be considered. A letter will be mailed to all applicants regarding the Selection Committee's decisions by May 18, 2012.

Participating nonprofit organizations and specific eligibility criteria for clients and former clients from each organization:

1. Boys and Girls Clubs:

Black Canyon Boys and Girls Club, Montrose, CO
Boys and Girls Club of Chaffee County, Salida & Buena Vista, CO
Boys and Girls Club of Craig, Craig, CO
Boys and Girls Club of La Plata County, Durango, CO
Boys and Girls Club of South Park, Fairplay, CO
Boys and Girls Club of the San Luis Valley, Alamosa, CO
Boys and Girls Club 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;
- 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: SmartMoves, 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.
- submit a letter of recommendation on Excelsior letterhead signed by the Executive Director. This letter must include Excelsior's endorsement that the student 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 will also describe the student's motivation, character, and chance for success in completing the program that she has chosen.

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;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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,
- 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,
 - 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,
- 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.