
THE HELEN M. MCLORAIN OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP

A SCHOLARSHIP FUND OF THE DENVER FOUNDATION

Scholarships for Current and Former Clients of Selected Nonprofit Agencies

Application Packet for Scholarships for the 2012 – 2013 Academic Year



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 three and four. Students who meet the eligibility criteria are encouraged to apply for a scholarship.

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.

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 2012-2013 academic year (summer 2012, fall 2012, winter/spring 2012). 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 (see page 3 and 4).
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 2012-2013 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. Additional application forms can be downloaded from www.denverfoundation.org (select "Scholarships").

Deadline

The application form and the items listed on page two must be mailed and **postmarked by April 18, 2012.**

**THE HELEN M. MCLORAIN OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP FUND
2012 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Submit all of the following items. Please label your items A, B, C, etc. and put them in the following order:

A. Application Form

Please print clearly or download the application and complete it using Adobe Acrobat. Feel free to include a resume or up to three additional sheets if you would like, but be sure to fill in all applicable areas of the application form.

B. Transcripts

Submit a transcript of **all** college and/or post-secondary coursework that you have completed. If you are a high school senior, or have not yet completed coursework after high school, submit a copy of your high school transcript. If you are in the first year of a program, submit a copy of both your college/post-secondary transcript and your high school transcript. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable. Applicants who are selected to receive a scholarship may be required to submit official transcripts for verification.

C. Personal Statement

First time applicants: Submit a personal statement, one to two pages in length, which discusses all of the following:

1. Tell us about a challenging experience or circumstance that you have had to face and the steps you took to move forward with your life.
2. What are your life and career goals?
3. Why do you want to attend college or a vocational school?

If you have previously received or applied for funding from this scholarship program, instead of answering the questions above, submit a one to two page statement reflecting upon the key things that you have learned through your studies and other experiences during the past year. What was the high point of your year? What was the low point? Have these things had an impact on your thoughts and plans for your future academic, professional, and personal life?

Essays should be typed in 10 or 12 point font and double-spaced.

D. First Time Applicants Only - Letter Confirming Eligibility from Nonprofit Organization

Include a letter from a staff member at the organization at which you are or were a client. This letter must be written on the organization's letterhead and include the following information: dates that you were a client, confirmation that you have met the eligibility requirements listed on page 3 or 4 for the nonprofit organization, and their name, phone number, signature, and title. If the person completing this letter knows you well, ask them if they will also recommend you for this scholarship and describe your motivation, character, and chance for success in completing the program you have chosen.

E. Reference Letter

Submit at least one additional letter of reference from someone who knows you well. This letter can be from the same person who completed the eligibility letter described above or a teacher, advisor, coach, paid or volunteer work supervisor, etc. Please ask your reference to describe your motivation, character, and chance for success in completing the program you have chosen. This letter must be on letterhead, signed, and dated within nine months of the application deadline.

Mail all of the items in one packet above postmarked by April 18, 2012 to:

The Helen M. McLoraine Opportunity Scholarship Fund, c/o The Denver Foundation, 55 Madison Street, 8th Floor, Denver, CO 80206. 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.

We do not accept applications via fax or email. All applications will need to be photocopied for selection committee members. For this reason, **please do not use staples or binders other than paper clips.**

Questions? If you have questions about this application or scholarship fund, please contact Karen Bellina at 303/996-7348 or kbellina@denverfoundation.org.

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; 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: 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; 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 instructions under D and E.**

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; and
- 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; and
 - 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.

Helen M. McLoraine Opportunity Scholarship Fund – 2012 Application

Personal Information

Title: Ms. Mrs. Mr. Other: _____ Birthdate: _____

Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____
Street Address City State Zipcode

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Please check one:

I have received a scholarship from this program in the past.

I have applied for a scholarship from this program but I have not been selected as a recipient.

This is the first time that I am applying for a scholarship from this program.

I am/was a client of _____ from _____ to _____.
(nonprofit organization listed on page two or three) (date) (date)

Education

Please check one:

I am a high school senior

I am currently studying full-time at a two- year or four-year post-secondary school

I am currently studying part-time at a two- year or four-year post-secondary school

I am not enrolled in school but plan to begin classes in the fall

Other _____

Date you received (or will receive) your high school diploma or GED (month/year): _____

Other degrees or certificates you have completed: _____

Name of school you are currently attending (if applicable): _____

Name of school you plan to attend in the fall: _____

If this will be a new school, have you been accepted? _____

Anticipated Major or Program: _____

Please tell us the length of your program, the degree or certificate you will receive, when you started or will begin coursework toward your degree or certificate, number of credit hours you have completed (if applicable), and when you expect to complete your coursework:

Anticipated Educational Expenses

List the number of credit hours you will complete and the estimated costs for each semester/term/quarter for the upcoming year. Please leave the box blank if you will not be attending during a certain time period or if your school does not have a semester/term/quarter that matches the column heading.

	Summer 2012	Fall 2012	Winter 2013 (if applicable)	Spring 2013
Number of Credit Hours				
Tuition and Fees*				
Books & Required Supplies				
Total for Each Semester/Term/Quarter				

*This information is available on the school's website or through the Financial Aid Office.

Total of all anticipated fees and expenses from the above table: _____

Please list other anticipated educational expenses and the estimated costs:

Resources (All information will kept confidential and used for scholarship selection purposes only.)

Have you completed the FAFSA (Free Application for Student Aid) in 2012? _____

What is your EFC (Estimated Family Contribution)? _____

Anticipated Household Income for 2012 (from all sources): \$ _____

Number of people supported by this income: _____

Names, ages, and relationship of the above, if applicable (ex. Susan, 19, daughter):

Number of people in your household who will be enrolled in a college degree/certification program for the upcoming academic year (including the applicant): _____

Anticipated Financial Aid

List the amount of aid you expect to receive for the 2012-2013 academic year. While awards from this program can only be applied to tuition, fees, books, and supplies, we recognize that there are many other expenses (child care, transportation, parking, etc.) related to attending school. Receiving aid from other sources **does not** disqualify an applicant from receiving an award.

	Amount	Pending or Confirmed?
Pell Grant:	\$ _____	_____
State Grants:	\$ _____	_____
Scholarships from College/University:	\$ _____	_____
Other Scholarships/Grants:	\$ _____	_____
	\$ _____	_____
	\$ _____	_____
Total:	\$ _____	_____

Financial Need Statement

Briefly explain your financial situation. If you have student loan debt from previous coursework, please include the amount in your explanation.

Other

Is there anything else you would like the selection committee to know as it considers your application?

Signature

I certify that all of the information in this application is accurate and complete. I understand that if I am selected for an scholarship, I may be asked to provide proof of the information stated on this form, including copies of official transcripts, relevant tax forms, and/or my Student Aid Report. I understand that if this information is not provided, or if the information is different than presented in this application, that the award may be rescinded. If I am selected to receive a scholarship, I agree that my name, award amount, and information provided about future plans may be used in announcements or articles (ex. graduation, newspaper) issued by The Denver Foundation. In addition, by signing this form, I hereby authorize the college/university that I will be attending to release information about the financial aid I will be receiving, my cost of attendance, my enrollment status, and the number of credits I complete during the summer of 2012 through spring 2013 to The Denver Foundation and The Helen M. McLoraine Scholarship Selection Committee.

Signature

Date