

# Ford Opportunity Scholarship Program

## Oregon

Hallie E. Ford and The Ford Family Foundation established the Ford Opportunity Program to provide scholarships to college students who are single parents. Each year, up to 50 applicants are selected from Oregon to receive a Ford Opportunity Scholarship, and up to 5 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 *Scholarship offers may be rescinded if an applicant's FAFSA changes prior to the fall term and he or she no longer meets the financial need criteria.*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 a single parent with custody of dependent child/children (18 years of age or younger) and heads of household as defined by IRS regulations. The intention of this scholarship is to assist single parents *who do not have the support of a domestic partner*
- Have a high school diploma or GED certificate, or be about to complete high school, or be a continuing college student
- Have a GPA of 3.00 or better (or a *Special Recommendation Form* - [www.GetCollegeFunds.org/ford\\_recommend.html](http://www.GetCollegeFunds.org/ford_recommend.html))
- Seek a bachelor's degree (and not previously have earned a bachelor's degree). Recipient may attend a community college, but only with the intention of transferring and obtaining a bachelor's degree
- 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

### 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.*

### Graduate Study

Ford Opportunity Scholars who successfully complete their bachelor's degree may be eligible to apply for up to two years of graduate-level funding



### 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) and other scholarships or gift aid. The formula for calculating the Ford Opportunity scholarship award is shown below:

#### Formula:

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

#### Example:

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

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

\$ 11,700 x 90% = \$10,530 Ford Opportunity Award

### To Apply in Oregon

Apply online through the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) at [www.GetCollegeFunds.org/eApp.html](http://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.