



Donald J. DeYoung Scholarship

The Donald J. DeYoung Scholarship fund was created in 1997 by friends and colleagues of Judge DeYoung to honor his 18 years of service as a probate court judge. The scholarship is designed to assist students who have had contact with the Family Division of the Circuit Court (through adoption, foster care, unaccompanied minors, probation, or neglect services) and are interested in pursuing college or vocational education. Students may attend the educational institution of their choice.

Eligibility:

Residents of the West Michigan area who are wards of the court or previously have been a ward of the court and have been discharged successfully are eligible to apply for the Donald J. DeYoung Scholarship. Applicants will need a reference letter from a caseworker, probation officer, foster care college coach, school counselor, mentor, or other supportive adult. The scholarship may be used at any educational institution within the United States. Applicants must be accepted at a college/university or training and trade school to apply. There is no maximum age limit to receive this scholarship. Awards generally range from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and can be renewed if the recipient continues to meet the minimum grade point requirement.

Selection criteria:

Selection of scholarship recipients will be based upon the following criteria:

- A grade point average of 2.5 or higher (must provide most recent high school or college transcript)
- Extracurricular activities or responsibilities within or outside of the school setting.
- A written essay on the topic of your involvement/connection to the court system, what it has meant to you, and your education plans.
- Letter of recommendation/support from a caseworker, probation officer, foster care college coach, school counselor, mentor, or other supportive adult.

Application Procedure:

Applications are available at Grand Rapids Community Foundation and on our website at www.grfoundation.org. Applications are due by **March 1**. All applicants will be notified of the award decisions in mid-May. Recipients may re-apply in subsequent years.



Donald J. DeYoung Scholarship Application

Directions: Complete the application and email by **March 1** to scholarships@grfoundation.org

Applicant Information

Name: Ms. Mr. _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Last 4 SSN: xxx-xx-_____ E-Mail: _____
(Provide an email you check often as this is how we contact you)

Date of Birth _____ Race: _____

Are you a First Generation College Student?: Yes _____ No _____

If student is a minor, name and address of legal guardian:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Referred by (caseworker name): _____

School Information

High School attended: _____

Name of college or educational institution you plan to attend:

Chosen course of study: _____

Upcoming year in School: _____ Cumulative GPA _____
(Must attach most recent high school or college transcript showing cumulative GPA)

Work experience (if applicable)

Please describe recent work experience, if applicable.

Extracurricular Activities, Awards, and Honors

Please describe extracurricular activities in which you were involved during high school or any extra family responsibilities you may have had, and/or any awards or honors you may have received.

Essay:

Please attach a brief essay of no more than 500 typewritten words describing your involvement/connection to the court system and your education plans. Include the reason for your college choice and your planned area of study.

Letter of Recommendation:

A letter of recommendation is required from a caseworker, probation officer, foster care college coach, counselor, mentor, or other supportive adult describing their connection to the applicant, their current status, and why the applicant deserves to receive the scholarship.

Financial Need:

Independent Student's Adjusted Gross Annual Income last year: \$ _____ & total dependents claimed _____

Anticipated Expenses Total Cost of Attendance for upcoming year (Include fees and room and board)

\$ _____

Anticipated Resources

A) Family Contribution (EFC from your FAFSA Student Aid Report) \$ _____

(if you are unable to file a FAFSA, leave (A) blank)

B) All Scholarships and Grants offered to date \$ _____

(returning college students: provide last year's awards if new award package is not available)

C) Any Other Resources (do not include any loans offered) \$ _____

Total Resources (Total of A, B and C)

\$ _____

Assessed Need (Expenses Less Resources)

\$ _____

Certification

In submitting this application, I certify that the information is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification of information will result in termination of any scholarship granted. If selected to receive a scholarship, I agree to the use of my name, likeness and information contained in my application (excluding financial information) for promotional purposes for the Grand Rapids Community Foundation without further compensation or notification.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

You may sign electronically by typing your name.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 1

Submit the following via email to scholarships@grfoundation.org

- **Application Form**
- **Essay**
- **Unofficial Transcript**
- **Letter of Recommendation**

For additional information, please contact Ruth Bishop, Education Program Officer 616-284-4903 or rbishop@grfoundation.org