

## **Taylor J. Ertel Scholarship Fund for Foster Children Application Guidelines**

The **Taylor J. Ertel Scholarship Fund for Foster Children** was created in 1993 by Allen and Catharine Ertel in memory of their adopted son, Taylor J. Ertel. The scholarship will assist Pennsylvania residents who have been placed in foster care by a child welfare agency at some point in their lives.

**Purpose:** Scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 will be provided annually to individuals who have lived in foster care at some time of their lives and are enrolled in a course of study which leads to a degree at an institution of higher education.

### **Application Submissions:**

- Applications will be accepted on an on-going basis until all available funds for the current year are awarded

### **Complete Criteria:**

- Applicants must be a Pennsylvania resident who have been placed in foster care by a child welfare agency at some point of their lives;
- Must be admitted to a program of study; training may range from short vocational courses such as cosmetology, data entry or welding, through college and graduate study

### **Required Attachments:**

- Proof of enrollment at a vocational or secondary institution of higher education;
- Budget for tuition, room/board and other fees;
- Confirmed financial aid package from your school;
- Transcripts from previously attended courses (if applying upon graduation from high school, please include your senior year transcripts);
- Resume with school/community activities; volunteerism; employment experience;
- Essay outlining your reason for choosing your desired career;
- One letter of recommendation;
- Letter from the Agency which supervised your foster care;
- Current photo

### **Applications can be mailed to:**

- FCFP Philanthropy Center  
Attn: Program Office  
201 West Fourth Street  
Williamsport, PA 17701

### **Scholarship Selection Process:**

- Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come first-serve basis until all available funds for the current year are committed;
- Past recipients may reapply for funding by submitting a new application

### **Scholarship Award Disbursements:**

- Scholarships will be awarded yearly. Recipients must submit a current tuition bill in order to receive their award. Awards are paid directly to the institution of higher education.

### **Questions please contact:**

- Betty Gilmour, Director of Grantmaking, First Community Foundation Partnership  
Phone: 570.321.1500  
Email: [BettyG@fcfpartnership.org](mailto:BettyG@fcfpartnership.org)



First Community  
Foundation Partnership  
OF PENNSYLVANIA

## Taylor J. Ertel Scholarship Fund for Foster Children Application

### Applicant information

MISS \_\_ MR. \_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ H \_\_ C \_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

HIGH SCHOOL (IF APPLICABLE) \_\_\_\_\_

AREA OF STUDY: MAJOR \_\_\_\_\_ MINOR \_\_\_\_\_

OR DEGREE/CERTIFICATE \_\_\_\_\_

HIGHEST GRADE OF SCHOOLING

8<sup>TH</sup> \_\_ 9<sup>TH</sup> \_\_ 10<sup>TH</sup> \_\_ 11<sup>TH</sup> \_\_ 12<sup>TH</sup> \_\_ OR GED Date: \_\_\_\_\_

College Semester: 1<sup>ST</sup> \_\_ 2<sup>ND</sup> \_\_ 3<sup>RD</sup> \_\_

### List parents' or guardians' information

MS. \_\_ MRS. \_\_ MR. \_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ H \_\_ C \_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

MS. \_\_ MRS. \_\_ MR. \_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ H \_\_ C \_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Are you presently living in foster care? Yes \_\_ No \_\_

Name and address of the Agency which supervised your foster care:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **TIPS on Essay, Resume and Recommendation Letters**

### **Essay**

Keep in mind that this is the only component of the application that allows you to tell the selection committee something about yourself. Demonstrate that you are goal-directed, motivated, and that you have a clearly-defined set of goals. Applications may be reviewed by different committees and their determination of the recipient may be based on the essay.

### **Resume**

List the following information with year and approximate number of hours per week or month spent participating in each:

- Varsity, junior varsity, and/or community teams
- Memberships and participation in school organizations and activities, community organizations
- Leadership roles/elected offices
- Awards received
- Volunteer experience
- Employment experience

### **Letter of Recommendation**

Provide reference letters from someone familiar with your goals and attributes. Consider a current or former teacher, coach, employer, clergy member, volunteer supervisor, neighbor or family friend. References from guidance counselors are not encouraged unless you have a unique relationship.

### **Signature's Required**

I hereby affirm that the information submitted is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I authorize First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCFP) to share this information with members of the selection committees.

I understand that all information is confidential and shared only with FCFP and members the selection committees.

I understand that late and/or incomplete applications will be disqualified.

---

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

---

DATE

---

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

---

DATE