



COLLEGE LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM Great West Division Youth Task Force

What is the College Leadership Scholarship Program?

The program was established to provide financial assistance to young volunteers as they pursue an education at an accredited university, college, community college or vocational technical school. The possible lifetime award is up to \$2,000 per student, offered at \$500 increments per year based upon successfully meeting the initial Program criteria in year one, and achieving ongoing demonstrated academic levels and volunteer commitment in each subsequent year.

Why is the American Cancer Society, Great West Division, Inc. offering a College Leadership Scholarship Program?

The College Leadership Scholarship Program helps the Great West Division of the American Cancer Society recognize outstanding volunteers within the organization. For many, the financial impact of college puts a hindrance on possible involvement opportunities. The College Scholarship encourages Relay For Life, Colleges Against Cancer, and general American Cancer Society volunteers to fulfill their dreams of attending college by lessening the financial burden of tuition and related expenses.

Who is eligible to apply for the College Leadership Scholarship Program?

- Be involved with the ACS at least 2 years
- Graduated from high school and/or continuing college in the upcoming school year within the Great West Division
- Be a U.S. citizen and a resident of Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Washington, or Wyoming
- Be accepted without condition to an accredited university, college, community college, or vocational technical school within the Great West Division.
- Have a 2.5 GPA or above in college and 3.0 GPA in high school
- Must take a minimum of 12 hours per quarter or semester (full-time student)

How many scholarships will be awarded for the 2009-2010 academic year?

The number of scholarships available is determined by donations received for the program. Due to limited resources, the American Cancer Society is not able to award scholarships to all outstanding volunteers.

What restrictions are there on the use of College Scholarships?

Scholarships may be used for enrollment and attendance tuition, fees, books and supplies required for course instruction at accredited undergraduate institutions of higher education located in the Great West Division. Stipends are based on financial need and are paid directly to the institution.

What is expected of the College Leadership Scholarship recipients?

- Scholarship recipients are expected to demonstrate behavior consistent with the American Cancer Society Volunteer and Staff Code of Ethics.
- Scholarship recipients are required to serve a minimum of 40 volunteer hours per quarter/semester with the American Cancer Society. Some opportunities for volunteerism include:
 - Serving as an American Cancer Society spokesperson
 - Working with high school students on tobacco control, nutrition or advocacy
 - Participating in fundraising/awareness events such as Relay For Life or Daffodil Days
 - Participating in marketing and communications projects just as internet, media, and legislative advocacy
 - Mentoring or providing guidance to American Cancer Society service clubs
 - Helping to initiate or maintain Colleges Against Cancer programs
 - Must be a member of ACS CAN within 2 months of acceptance
- Scholarship recipients may be asked to communicate with American Cancer Society donors and/or program administrators.

What criteria are used in evaluating College Leadership Scholarship applications?

College Scholarship applications are assessed based on:

- Community service (50% weight) – must be or become an American Cancer Society volunteer in college for at least 40 hours per quarter/semester.
- Financial need (25% weight) – as demonstrated on financial aid form in the application.
- Academic performance – minimum 2.5 GPA (college) and 3.0 (high school) to be eligible.
- Goals and leadership essay (25% weight) – as defined by the applicant.

What information is required to apply to the College Leadership Scholarship Program?

Along with the completed application form, applicants are asked to provide:

- Three letters of recommendation, including one from ACS staff partner
- Goal statement/essay of 500 words or less including information on ACS involvement present and future plans
- Transcript(s) of academic records from high school or for any post-secondary work
- Letter of acceptance to post-secondary institution
- American Cancer Society Financial Aid Form
- Signed legal consent form
- Recent photo

Are College Leadership Scholarship recipients eligible to reapply for the program?

Yes. Applicants awarded scholarships are eligible to reapply to the program for up to four years. As a requirement for annual renewal, the candidates must complete and submit the application form, provide an up-to-date transcript of their academic record, and a record demonstrating their volunteer hours with the American Cancer Society signed by an American Cancer Society staff person.

A previous award recipient is NOT guaranteed a renewal of their scholarship.

How do I get an application for the College Scholarship Program?

Applications requests should be directed to: **Your Staff Partner**. Staff partners can get the application on the link. For more information, email Abby Ouimet at abby.ouimet@cancer.org.

When is the deadline for the College Scholarship application? What is the timeline for the process of announcing winners, etc.?

All completed applications must be received no later than **April 1, 2009**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Winners will be announced in June 2009. If the scholarship award is accepted by the applicant and all necessary forms are received, a check will be mailed directly to the recipient's post-secondary institution during the month of August 2009.