

# Fill the Gap Scholarship Application

Supporting youth with lived foster care experience with flexible funding to enable their pursuit of higher education. Youth applicants must be under age 24 and have experienced foster care after the age of 14. Please be prepared to complete this application in one sitting. You should also have your most recent high school or college transcript (PDF preferably) and a short essay (**must be between 350-500 words, saved in PDF format**) for uploading at the end. You also may upload up to two optional letters of recommendation.

You can choose between the following essay prompts:

1. Describe a skill or strength you have, or something unique about yourself, and why it is part of who you are.
2. Describe something that matters to you, and why.
3. Describe a challenge you have overcome in your life.

\* Indicates required question

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1. Email \*

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## Student Contact Information

2. Legal first and last name \*

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3. Preferred name: \*

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4. Preferred pronouns (i.e. she/her, he/him, they/them, etc.)

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5. Date of birth \*

Example: January 7, 2019

6. Phone number \*

7. Email \*

8. Mailing address (including city, state & zip) \*

### Eligibility questions: Foster Care Status

9. Are you currently in foster care? \*

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

Unsure

10. In which year did you first enter foster care? \*

11. Were you in foster care prior to age 14 and exit care after age 14? \*

Mark only one oval.

Yes

No

12. Are you currently in Independent Living Program/Services (ILP)? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

13. Do you have a DHS caseworker? If so, please include their full name, phone and email. \*  
Otherwise, put NA:

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14. Do you have an ILP coach? If so, please include their full name, phone and email. \*  
Otherwise, put NA:

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15. Please list which states you experienced foster care (example: Oregon and Washington) \*

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16. While in foster care, approximately how many different placements did you experience? (A \*  
placement can include a specific foster family, a group home, a residential facility, etc)

*Mark only one oval.*

- 1-4
- 5-9
- 10 or more

17. If you exited care, which year? \*

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18. Did either of your parents also experience foster care? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

Unsure

### Continuing Education Information

19. In which college or university are you currently enrolled or have been accepted? \*

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20. School location (city, state): \*

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21. What program or degree are you seeking? \*

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22. If you are in college now, how many credit hours are you taking this semester or quarter? If you are in high school now, how many credit hours do you plan on taking when you start next term? \*

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23. What professional goal are you seeking to support with your current education plan? \*

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24. Who are the primary people in your life supporting your educational journey? (check all that apply)

*Check all that apply.*

- Bio family
- Foster family
- DHS case worker
- ILP coach
- Friends
- Other mentor
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Student Demographics

25. Race (check all boxes that apply): \*

*Check all that apply.*

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Black or African American
- White
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- Multiracial (please check which boxes above)
- Prefer not to say

26. Ethnicity: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Hispanic or Latinx

Not Hispanic or Latinx

27. Gender: \*

*Check all that apply.*

Female

Male

Transgender

Nonbinary

Other

Prefer not to say

28. Do you identify as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

29. Are you pregnant or parenting? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

30. Did you immigrate here from another country? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

31. If yes, from which country did you immigrate?

\_\_\_\_\_

32. Did your parents immigrate here from another country? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Yes, one parent is an immigrant
- Yes, both parents are immigrants
- No

### Work and School Status

33. Select all that apply to you below \*

*Check all that apply.*

- Full-time student (taking or plan to take 12 credits or more)
- Part-time student (taking or plan to take 11 credits or less)
- Working part-time (under 32 hours per week)
- Working full-time (over 32 hours per week)
- Not employed

34. Living Situation: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

- Living independently with roommates
- Living independently without roommates
- Living with biological family
- Living with foster family
- Living in a group home
- Houseless/couch surfing
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

35. Which financial aid application did you or will you submit? \*

*Check all that apply.*

ORSAA

FAFSA

36. If you already submitted the above, what is your EFC (Estimated Family Contribution)? \*

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37. Have you or will you apply for the Oregon Promise Grant? \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Yes

No

Unsure

### Monthly Income/Support

Please explain any income or other financial support you receive in the categories below. If you receive no support, write N/A.

38. Income from work (monthly \$ amount and any notes): \*

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39. Tuition Support (monthly \$ amount, source, and any notes): \*

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40. Housing Support (monthly \$ amount, source, and any notes): \*

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41. Other grants/funding (specify source and include monthly amount and any notes): \*

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42. Please indicate any other supportive programs you are participating in:

*Check all that apply.*

Avenues to College

Future Connect

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## Monthly expenses

Indicate your current or anticipated expenses each month in the following categories. If that category doesn't apply to you, write N/A.

43. Housing - Rent:

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44. Housing - Utilities:

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45. Internet:

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46. Cell phone:

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47. Car payment/car insurance:

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48. Transportation:

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49. Meal plan or groceries:

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Funding request

50. What amount are you requesting in fill-the-gap funding? (up to \$4,000)

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51. How will the funds be used? When are the funds needed?

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## Short Essay

Pick one of the following prompts to answer in **350-500 words\***:

1. Describe a skill or strength you have, or something unique about yourself, and why it is part of who you are.
2. Describe something that matters to you, and why.
3. Describe a challenge you have overcome in your life.

\*If your essay is not between the required word count, you will not be considered for the scholarship and will be invited to resubmit your application during the next open application cycle.

52. Please upload your one-page essay in PDF format. \*

Files submitted:

## Transcripts

53. Please upload your high school and/or college transcript below. You can use a PDF, JPEG, \* or DOC format.

Files submitted:

## Letters of Recommendation

54. You may upload up to 2 letters of recommendation. These are optional and not required.

Files submitted:

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