

Collaborative Academic Scholarship Endowments

Individual Named Endowments, Collaborative Awards

Purpose and Practice

Since 1992, the Community Foundation has helped caring people support the next generation through scholarships. Collaborative Academic Scholarship Endowments provide financial support for a graduating senior from a specific geographic Charlevoix County high school as they pursue post-secondary education. Contributions to scholarship endowments are carefully invested to grow larger over time while using a portion of the endowment earnings each year to offer scholarship awards.

How Collaborative Academic Scholarship Endowments Work

Available dollars from the individual named endowments are pooled together for a specific geographic high school to make a collaborative scholarship award. By awarding available dollars from multiple endowments collaboratively, students can receive meaningful financial support over multiple years.

Eligibility criteria for collaborative academic scholarships are shared across the individual named endowments and managed by the C3F. Selection is influenced by multiple factors, including demonstrated and anticipated indicators of success, reflection essays, and financial need. After an award is made, the fund representative (usually the donor who established the endowment) will receive updates on the impact for scholarship recipients.



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Collaborative Academic Scholarship Endowments *Program Details*

Eligibility Criteria: Graduating from a specific geographic Charlevoix County high school; a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher; SAT score of 1,000 or higher; Student Aid Index number less than the level set by the Michigan Achievement Scholarship; not eligible for the Tuition Incentive Program (Medicaid recipients).

Scoring/Selection Criteria: Applicants will be evaluated based on demonstrated academic achievement, perseverance, personal motivation, and the potential for success in post-secondary learning and beyond with a focus on students with financial need.

- Academic Success
 - Academic Success is a comprehensive measurement that includes GPA, SAT, and considers AP, Honors, or College Courses.
- Extracurricular Involvement
 - May include involvement in school-sponsored activities, community service, and work experience.
- Financial Need
 - Priority levels for Financial Need are defined as substantial need, significant need, moderate need, and lowest need. Financial Need is determined using an applicant's Student Aid Index number.
- Personal Statement
 - Applicants will provide short personal statements that address their preparation, goals, motivation, habits for success, and perseverance.
 - Personal statements will also be evaluated on their overall quality, based on coherency, completeness, and few spelling or grammatical errors.

Application & Evaluation: Applicants must complete the Universal Application provided and maintained by the C3F to be considered for scholarship awards. Evaluation is completed by appointed and trained C3F reviewers. Scholarship recipient selection is confirmed by the C3F Scholarship Administrator and approved by the C3F Board of Trustees.

Communication: Promotion of scholarship opportunities are provided by the C3F to students, schools, counselors, and on social media platforms. The high school of the recipient(s) will provide notification of the award to the student. The C3F will provide notification to the fund representative in August annually. Additionally, C3F will announce all scholarship recipients in a press release and on social media platforms.

Award Amount: The award amount is determined annually by the C3F spending policy. The C3F maintains flexibility and final determination on how to ensure a meaningful award is made to applicant(s) and if/when the award becomes renewable.

After Awarding: Recipients must complete a scholarship claim form. For renewable scholarships, recipients will also be required to maintain eligibility by providing their most recent transcript (unofficial transcripts are acceptable) and maintaining a cumulative grade point average of at least a 2.0 or higher. Each year of renewal requires a scholarship claim form. Deferrals are allowed on a case-by-case basis.

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