



Donor Directed Scholarship Funds

One Fund Supports One Student

Purpose and Practice

Since 1992, the Community Foundation has helped caring people support the next generation through scholarships. Donor Directed Scholarship Funds can be established to support students graduating from local schools as they pursue post-secondary education. This non-endowed fund can make an immediate and meaningful award to an individual student.

How Donor Directed Scholarship Funds Work

- The donor can choose additional areas of preference for eligibility and selection.
- An immediate award can be made for an individual student. The C3F provides guidance on meaningful award amounts and the ability for a scholarship to be renewable.
- Establishes a named, non-endowed fund for a minimum of \$100,000. When the fund balance falls below \$50,000 the C3F offers a "pause" for decisions on the future of the fund.
- A 2% fee for management includes donation acknowledgement, investment management, and scholarship promotion, review, and student selection.

Program Details for Donor Directed Scholarship Funds

The Community Foundation evaluates scholarships in five categories: financial need, academic success, extracurricular involvement, personal statement, and additional considerations. Donor Directed Scholarship Funds can indicate broad areas of preferences in some of the categories defined by the C3F. Preferences will be used to guide student eligibility and selection for an award. Broad preferences yield more applicants and consistent distribution of a scholarship. After an award is made, the fund representative (usually the donor who established the endowment) will receive updates on the impact made on the scholarship recipient.



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Future Options for Donor Directed Scholarship Funds

When the fund has made several years of scholarship awards and the balance of the fund falls below \$50,000, the Community Foundation will "pause" the fund to allow the fund representative to make decisions about the future of the fund. At that time, the fund representative will have three options to consider:

- Maintain the named and directed scholarship fund by bringing the balance up to the current minimum to establish (it may be \$100,000 or it may have changed over time). The fund representative will have two years to meet the minimum fund balance and the fund will remain "paused" during that time.
- Spend down the scholarship award on a renewable schedule with guidance from the C3F. The award will distribute on an established schedule for as long as it can be maintained by the fund balance.
- Modify the named and directed scholarship fund to become a Collaborative Academic Scholarship Endowment or Collaborative Career Training & Skills Education Scholarship Endowment. The name will be preserved, and the awards will continue to support local students. The fund will become endowed and will provide award dollars collaboratively with other endowments. The Community Foundation's eligibility and selection criteria would be used moving forward. No additional contributions would be necessary.

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