THE STEPHEN PHILLIPS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND, INC.
2017-2018 Early Response to New Application for High School Students
Submission Deadline of April 3, 2017 at 12 Noon

The Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund offers renewable, four year scholarships to students with financial need who display academic achievement, a commitment to serving others, a strong work ethic, grit and passion for overcoming obstacles and/or achieving future goals, and leadership qualities.

In 2016, 1,228 students submitted applications, and 136 received new awards ranging generally from $3,000 to $18,000 annually. Of the new awards, 28 recipients (or 21% of new awardees) were awarded during the Early Application cycle. This year, The Phillips Scholarship Fund awarded over $3 million in new and renewal awards.

For many students, knowing they have received scholarships can greatly influence their choice of college. As a result, in addition to the regular application process, Phillips offers an early response process for those high school students whose college choice would be impacted by whether or not they receive a Phillips Scholarship. Students interested in being notified of a decision before the May 1st reply date need to submit a complete application and mail tax documents by April 3rd. These applicants will receive a decision by April 28th. The first 300 applications received by April 3rd will be considered. (All applicants submitting an application beyond the initial 300 will be notified by email and considered during the regular process.)

Important Information

Early Response to the New Application for High School Students, deadline – 12 Noon on April 3, 2017

- For high school students who have financial aid packages from the college they hope to attend.
- Students must complete and submit the application in its entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- The first 300 applications will be evaluated. If applicants are awarded, they will be informed of a decision by April 28th, before the common reply date of May 1st.
- By May 3rd, awarded students will need to notify the Phillips Scholarship that they accept the award.
- Applicants not awarded will be informed of:
  - A deferral to the regular applicant pool. Deferred early applications will automatically be considered during the regular application cycle. Applicants should not fill out another application for the May 1st deadline.
  - No award. This is a final decision. Applicants should not fill out another application if denied during the early cycle.
- Before beginning the application, use the financial calculator on the Phillips website to be sure that you qualify: www.phillips-scholarship.org/new-applicants/financial-eligibility-calculator

Required Materials

- Official High School transcript for all academic work through 1st semester of senior year.
- Two Recommendation Forms – High School Guidance Counselor Form (and letter) and Recommender Form.
- 2017-2018 Student Aid Report from FAFSA.
- Financial Aid Award for 2017-2018 from the college where the student plans to attend.
- A resume highlighting activities, jobs, honors and service.
- Tax forms mailed to: The Stephen Phillips Scholarship, at P.O. Box 870, Salem MA 01970, postmarked by April 3rd
  - 2015 IRS 1040 tax forms of parents
  - 2015 IRS 1040 tax forms, or W2 forms if taxes were not filed, of student
  - 2016 W2 forms of student
- Essays and short answers are part of the application.
- Additional Recommender Forms and/or letters of recommendation are optional but may be helpful.

Who Can Apply

- Applicants must be permanent residents of New England but may attend college anywhere in the United States.
- Applicants must be United States citizens or noncitizens who have a current lawful presence in the United States and a work permit.
- High school seniors entering college attending accredited U.S. colleges or universities on a full-time basis.
- Awards are limited to students in undergraduate study and to those seeking their first bachelor’s degree at a four year college.
- Successful applicants have a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale and are enrolled in a demanding course of study. They have substantial unmet need and/or special financial circumstances. (See financial calculator on website.) Strong applicants also participate in a balance of community, school, and work activities, exhibiting a willingness to be involved and to make a meaningful contribution to the world around them.

If you have questions, please email staff@spscholars.org or call 978-744-2111.
THE STEPHEN PHILLIPS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND, INC.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2017-2018

Submission Deadline of May 1, 2017 at 12 Noon

The Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund offers renewable, four year scholarships to students with financial need who display academic achievement, a commitment to serving others (in school, the community or at home), a strong work ethic, grit and passion for overcoming obstacles and/or achieving future goals, and leadership qualities.

In 2016, 1,228 students submitted applications, with 136 receiving new awards generally ranging from $3,000 to $18,000. This year, The Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund awarded over $3 million in new and renewal awards.

- Applicants must be permanent residents of New England but may attend college anywhere in the United States.
- Applicants must be United States citizens or noncitizens with a current lawful presence in the United States and a work permit.
- High school seniors entering college and returning college students attending accredited U.S. colleges or universities full-time are eligible to apply for the scholarship. Awards are limited to students in undergraduate study and to those seeking their first bachelor’s degree at a four year college.
- Applicants must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to apply.
- The award is renewable up to a total of four undergraduate years providing there is continued financial eligibility and the student maintains a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- All grants will be paid directly to the institution.
- Awards range generally from $3,000 to $18,000. (In 2016, 82% of new awards were between $3,000 and $10,000.)

How to Apply

Visit www.phillips-scholarship.org for information about applying for the scholarship. There is an application for high school students and an application for college students. There is also an Early Response option for high school students described below. All applications will be available online by early January 2017. Before beginning the application, use the financial calculator on the Phillips website to be sure that you qualify financially. Please keep in mind that:

- 86% of newly awarded students in 2016 had family AGIs of less than $80,000
- 81% of newly awarded students in 2016 had federal EFCs of less than $5,000

Regular Deadline – 12 Noon, May 1, 2017. Begin your online application early enough to be thorough in your responses, and to give your recommenders time to respond to recommendation requests. The application includes one formal essay and a few short responses, as well as information about your academics, activities, employment experience and financial need at the college you have chosen to attend. Applicants will be notified of decisions in late June.

Early Response Deadline – 12 Noon April 3, 2017. Available for high school students who have their financial aid information from the college they plan to attend. By completing the application in its entirety by April 3rd and mailing tax documents postmarked by April 3rd, applicants will be informed of a decision by April 28th, before the common reply date of May 1st. The first 300 applications submitted by April 3rd will be considered. (All applicants submitting an application beyond the initial 300 will be notified by email and then considered during the regular application process.)

Required Materials

- Official transcript for all academic work through Fall 2016 (First year college students should submit their high school transcript in addition to Fall 2016 grades from college.)
- Two Recommendation Forms
  - High School applicants need a High School Guidance Counselor Form (and letter) and the Recommender Form.
  - College applicants need the College Recommendation Form and the Recommender Form.
- 2017-2018 Student Aid Report from FAFSA
- Financial Aid Award Information
  - High School applicants need the 2017-2018 financial aid info from the college they will be attending in Fall 2017.
  - College applicants need the 2016-2017 financial aid info from the college/university they are currently attending (or 2017-2018, if available). College students who are transferring must send the award letter for 2017-2018 from the college to which they are transferring.
- A resume highlighting your activities, jobs, honors and service.
- Additional Recommender Forms and/or letters of recommendation are optional but may be helpful.
- Semi-Finalists will be asked to supply the student 2015 IRS 1040 tax forms (or 2015 W2 forms if taxes were not filed), parents’ 2015 IRS 1040 tax forms, and student 2016 W2 forms.

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