



## Scholarship Program

### Eligibility Requirements:

- The department must have court-ordered legal guardianship for the applicant, the applicant must have aged out of DCFS guardianship at age 18 or older, or the department must have had legal guardianship for the applicant immediately prior to the adoption or guardianship being finalized.
- The applicant must be at least 16 years old, but not yet 21, on the scholarship application deadline of March 31 each year
- Successfully compete for a DCFS college scholarship
- Maintain at least a “C” average each semester
- Maintain full-time status (12 hours Fall & Spring, 6 hours or an approved internship in Summer). Enrollment will be verified through the National Student Clearinghouse.
- Submit your class schedule at the start of each semester and your grades at the end of the semester (**no schedule and grades, no payment!**)
- Report changes to any contact information promptly to the DCFS scholarship administrator

### Benefits:

- A grant award in the amount of \$511 per month. Direct deposit is strongly recommended.
- Medical card provided to Illinois students until the earlier of four years or age 23
- Tuition waiver available to any Illinois state funded community college or university
- Reimbursement of the cost of books not covered by financial aid
- Benefits available for five consecutive year or through the semester the youth turns 23, whichever occurs first
- This program is a chance of a lifetime!

### Important Plans To Consider:

- Arranging transportation to the school location
- Planning for housing when school is closed for breaks and holidays
- Devising a backup plan for education finances if your monthly grant is lost or stolen
- Seeking tutorial assistance through the school, and meeting with OETS staff if your grades are low, if you are having problems in a particular course, or if you must withdraw from any classes
- Youth who withdraw from classes must notify the OETS business office
- Apply for financial aid annually.

### What the Scholarship DOES NOT Cover:

- Orientation fees
- Computers or Internet services
- Room/board costs
- Repayment of student loans
- Tuition to private, out-of-state or vocational training programs
- Study abroad
- Phone bills
- Dorm room damages
- Laboratory fees
- Transportation to and from school
- Study enhancement programs
- Supplies
- Library fines

See reverse side for more details.



## Important Dates

Please mail the following documents to the Office of Education and Transition Services by the following dates:

August 15	Schedule, Summer Grades, Address Changes
January 15	Schedule, Fall Grades, Address Changes
June 15	Schedule, Spring Grades, Address Changes

## Pay Run Dates for 2016

MONTH	MAILING
JANUARY	1/12/16
FEBRUARY	2/9/16
MARCH	3/9/16
APRIL	4/11/16
MAY	5/10/16
JUNE	6/9/16
JULY	7/12/16
AUGUST	8/9/16
SEPTEMBER	9/12/16
OCTOBER	10/12/16
NOVEMBER	11/14/16
DECEMBER	12/12/16

NOTE: All mailing dates are estimated.

## Important Phone Numbers

Central Payment Unit	800-525-0499	Education Advisors	815-753-5562
Direct Deposit	217-557-0930	Chicago Office	312-814-6800
Medical Card Hotline	800-228-6533	Springfield Business Office	217-557-2689
Youth Hotline	866-459-6884		

