



## 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. During the 2016-2017 cycle, 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 who are authorized to work.
- 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](http://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 meeting all requirements of this application by the deadline, students will receive a decision before the common reply date of May 1<sup>st</sup>. The first 300 applications submitted by April 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 if available.

If you have questions, please email [staff@spscholars.org](mailto:staff@spscholars.org) or call 978-744-2111.