

Scholarship Programs for Post-Secondary Education

The New Jersey Department of Children and Families (DCF) offers two scholarship programs for eligible youth who were under the care and custody of Child Protection and Permanency (CP&P) and resided in an out-of-home placement or have experienced homelessness in New Jersey.

New Jersey Foster Care (NJFC) Scholars Program

The NJFC Scholars Program provides scholarships of up to \$5,000 per academic year to eligible youth who have lived in a CP&P out-of-home placement, CP&P independent living arrangement, supported housing program or experienced homelessness. Scholarships are for the pursuit of a post-secondary degree at an accredited two-year or four-year college or university or a Career and Technical Education (CTE) program. Youth must be between 16 and 22 at the time of application, have a high school diploma or certificate of high school equivalency and meet at least one of the following eligibility requirements:

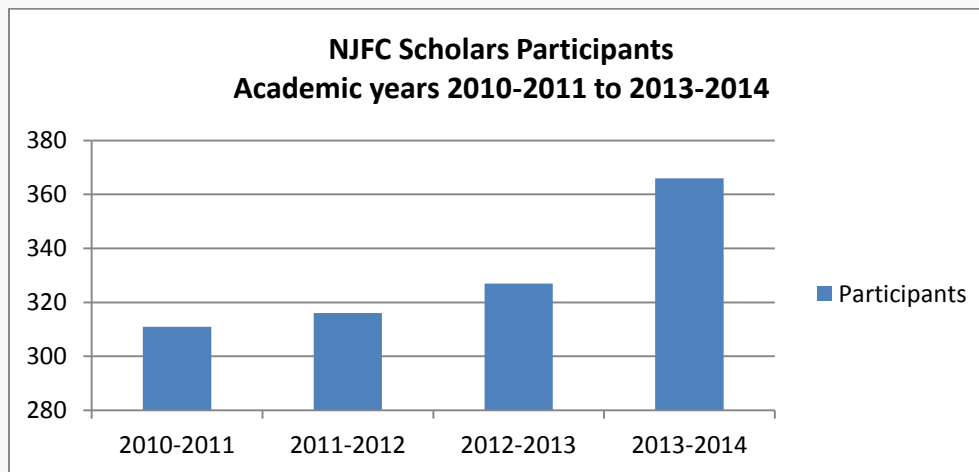
- Currently or has been in the care and custody of CP&P and in an out-of-home placement for a cumulative of 9 months or more following the youth's 16th birthday or 18 months or more after the youth's 14th birthday;
- Adopted through CP&P after the youth's 12th birthday;
- Awarded Kinship Legal Guardianship through CP&P after the youth's 16th birthday; or
- Resides in or has resided in an independent living arrangement or transitional living program for 3 months or more that is operated or approved for payment by CP&P, the federal government pursuant to the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act or the New Jersey Homeless Youth Act.

Visit <http://www.fafsonline.org/njfc-scholars-program.html> for more information.

DCF Scholarship Fund

The DCF Scholarship Fund provides scholarships to eligible youth who experienced at least 6 cumulative months of out-of-home placement through CP&P after the age of 12. The youth must be between 16 and 24 at the time of initial application, have a high school diploma or certificate of high school equivalency (GED), and be granted admission to an accredited two-year or four-year college or university or Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.

For more information please contact Colleen Otremsky in the Office of Educational Support and Programs at 609-888-7100 or colleen.otremsky@dcf.state.nj.us.



QUICK FACTS

- The NJFC Scholars program has helped 1769 students pursue an education since 2003.
- The NJFC Scholars program served 366 students during the 2013-2014 academic year. These students represented 114 colleges, universities and CTE programs throughout the United States.
- Since 2012, the DCF Scholarship Fund has awarded 76 scholarships totaling over \$150,000.