CFMT General Scholarship FAQs

Why Does The CFMT Offer Scholarships?

- The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee Scholarship Program supports Middle Tennessee students through transformative scholarship awards made possible by our donors, who are committed to educational access, persistence, and completion for members of our community.

Goal of Scholarship:

- Provide partial financial support to students pursuing postsecondary education.
- The scholarships are intended to supplement, not supplant, any federal, state, or institutional grant or scholarship for which the student is eligible.

Application Timeline:

- December 1st - February 1st

Award Notification:

- Mid-of April
    - We know many students must commit to a college by May 1st; therefore, we want our recipients to be aware of their award before that deadline.

Eligibility Requirements:

- The majority of the scholarships under this general application will require students to be local to Middle Tennessee or planning to enroll/already enrolled in a college in Middle Tennessee.
- Must be accepted into an accredited college or university
- Often varies depending on specific scholarship funds;
  some have additional criteria related to:
    - Academic achievement
    - Transcripts
    - Standardized test scores
    - Work experience
    - Financial need
    - Field of study
    - Community involvement

Where Can I Apply?

- Apply for Scholarships – Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee
- Please submit only one application.
- Supplemental items:
    - Once you sign below and click 'Submit', you will get a Confirmation Page that will include any opportunities that include supplemental material that you must complete.
    - If you do qualify for a scholarship opportunity that requires supplemental material, after you click "Continue", you can then click on each listed scholarship opportunity to submit other required information.
    - *You MUST click Submit at the bottom of EACH supplemental page for the individual scholarship application to be considered complete.*
    - Not all scholarships will have a supplemental section. Many of the scholarships the CFMT offers do not require supplemental materials.
- CFMT staff will determine if you are eligible for other scholarships based on the information in your application.

How much does it cost to apply for a scholarship?

- There is no charge to apply.

Documentation Requirements:

- Complete Application
- Academic Recommendation
    - If you have been out of school for some time, we still need an academic recommendation. Please consider asking someone who can speak to your academic potential
    - The recommendation request is submitted to your recommender through a unique link in the application
- Personal Recommendation
    - The recommendation request is submitted to your recommender through a unique link in the application
- Academic Transcript upload
    - If you are a high school senior, the transcript upload request will be sent through your application.
- Additional supporting documentation, depending on scholarship requirements
- Applicants will need to answer questions regarding their finances; therefore, applicants may want their financial information readily available to refer to.

Financial Amount Awarded:

- CFMT scholarships offer varying award amounts. Annually, the recipient awards average at $2,500.

Can I receive more than one scholarship?

- Yes. You may be eligible and selected as a recipient for more than one scholarshi p. CFMT staff will then determine if you are eligible for other scholarships based on the information in your application.

Use of Scholarship Funds

- May be applied towards items included in a school's Cost of Attendance including:
    - Tuition and fees
    - Room and board
    - Books and supplies
    - Personal or living expenses
    - Transportation

Scholarship Selection Process:

- A volunteer selection committee, appointed by the Board of CFMT and composed of Middle Tennesseans, will review each application and select recipients based on the criteria established by the donors.

Scholarship Payment Process:

- Scholarship award checks will be made payable to the recipient's institution and mailed just prior to the beginning of fall semester. The payment will be split between the fall and spring semester.
    - If the recipient is graduating in December, the full amount will be applied to the fall semester.
- If the recipient experiences Scholarship Displacement as a result of our outside scholarship award, we encourage recipients to reach out to our team to discuss other payment methods.
    - Practical Tips for Dealing with Scholarship Displacement_NSPA_Resource

Repayment:

- Scholarships do not have to be repaid.

Recipient Responsibilities:

- Scholarship recipients must attend college on a full-time basis in the fall of the ye ar in which the scholarships are awarded and continue in college that entire academic year, barring illness or emergency.

Renewal Policy:

- Receiving a scholarship one year does not automatically guarantee renewal. Recipients must continue to meet the fund criteria in order to renew. In December of each year, the recipient must check their email for instructions on renewing their scholarship fund.