



THE STEPHEN PHILLIPS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND, INC.
P.O. Box 870, Salem, MA 01970
www.phillips-scholarship.org / staff@spscholars.org

Dear Guidance Staff,

Greetings from the Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund! We are writing to update you about the 2019-2020 awards from last spring's application cycle.

This year, **Phillips' new and renewal awards total almost \$3.4 million, including \$416,500 to students from Maine** for the 2019-2020 academic year. Please see the enclosed list of students from Maine, arranged alphabetically by high school, who are receiving these awards. Students listed are both new and renewing recipients.

Early Response Option

For several years now we have allowed students who have received the financial aid packages from their preferred college to apply before April 3rd in order to receive our decision before the May 1st college common reply date. We hope that this strategy allows students a better understanding of their finances before they select a school. We commit to reviewing the first 300 early applications that are filed; we have been able to review and respond to all early response applicants before May 1 each year.

2020-2021 Application Process:

- The enclosed "How to Apply" instructions may be copied for students to promote the scholarship.
- New applications will be posted on the website www.phillips-scholarship.org in December 2019.
- The **New High School Application** and **New College Application** are due at noon on May 1, 2020.
- The **Early Response Option for High School Students Application** is due at noon on April 3, 2020.
- We welcome questions! Please call 978-744-2111 or email staff@spscholars.org.

The Fund offers renewable, 4-year scholarships to students from New England with financial need. Successful candidates are those who display academic achievement, service to others, good character, leadership qualities, and a history of part-time employment. We also value demonstrated grit and resiliency in students who have faced significant challenges. Applicants may be high school seniors, recent high school graduates or current college students.

Thank you for all the wonderful work that you do to help your students with the college search process!

Sincerely,

The Phillips Scholarship Staff
www.phillips-scholarship.org
staff@spscholars.org



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College Scholarships for the Academic Year 2020-2021

About the Scholarship

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 consistent history of part-time work, grit and passion for overcoming obstacles and/or achieving future goals, and leadership qualities.

- ✓ Applicants may attend college anywhere in the United States but must be from New England.
- ✓ Awards are limited to students seeking their first bachelor's degree at a four-year college. They may be high school seniors or prospective or current college students who will be attending college full time in 2020-2021.
- ✓ Applicants must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to be considered.
- ✓ Students should have a history of part-time employment.
- ✓ Applicants must have financial need. It is our intent to award students with Expected Family Contributions (EFC) of about \$10,000 or less, although families with special, extenuating financial situations should call or email to see if they should apply. Before beginning the application, use the financial calculator on the Phillips website to be sure that you qualify financially. Your financial need takes into account the scholarships and grants that your college gives you, so you need to have that information in order to calculate your need.
- ✓ 90% of newly awarded students in 2019 had family AGIs of less than \$80,000 and 80% had EFCs below \$5,000.
- ✓ Applicants must either be United States citizens or noncitizens with a current lawful presence and work authorization in the U.S.

How to Apply

Visit www.phillips-scholarship.org for more information about applying for the scholarship and to access the scholarship application. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED USING THE ONLINE APPLICATION FORM. Mailed applications will not be considered.

Begin your online application early enough to be thorough in your responses and to give recommenders time to respond to your recommendation requests. The majority of applicants report spending between 4 and 10 hours to complete the application.

To complete your application, you will need to upload

- ✓ One formal essay, a few short responses, and a resume
- ✓ Financial Aid Award information from the college or university that you plan to attend
- ✓ Your FAFSA Student Aid Report
- ✓ The names and contact details of at least two recommenders, but you may ask more than two. One of these must be a guidance counselor (for high school students) or a professor or advisor (for college students).

Regular Deadline – 12 noon, May 1, 2020. Applicants will be notified of decisions in late June.

Early Response Deadline – 12 noon April 3, 2020. Available only to students who have the financial aid information from the college they prefer to attend. The first 300 students to submit an application before April 3rd will receive a decision before the college common reply date of May 1st.

2018 Parent Tax Forms and 2019 Student Tax Information are required from all early applicants. Tax information will only be requested from semi-finalists in the regular applicant group.

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