

Scholarship Announcement Language

Warm, clear announcement copy you can adapt to share your foster-youth scholarship with schools, caseworkers, independent living programs, and community organizations.

How to use this template

Replace every bracketed field with your own details, then delete the guidance notes. Keep the announcement short enough to read in under a minute — counselors and caseworkers often forward these to students by text or email.

- **Lead with the honoree.** The name and the reason make the scholarship memorable.
- **State eligibility plainly.** Say “current or former foster youth” in the first few lines.
- **Give one clear action.** A single link or email address, not three.
- **Name the deadline twice** — once near the top, once at the end.

Short version (email, text, social post)

Sample — short announcement

The [Honoree Name] Scholarship for Foster Youth — now open

[Honoree Name] [was my teacher / believed in me / never gave up on me] at [School or Place]. This scholarship exists to pass that belief on.

One award of [\$ amount] is available to a [current or former foster youth] who is [enrolling in / attending] a [college, university, or trade or career school] for [term/year].

Apply by [deadline date] at [application link]. Questions: [contact email].

Full version (website, newsletter, press release)

Sample — full announcement

[Sponsor Name] announces the [Honoree Name] Scholarship for Foster Youth

[City, State] — [Sponsor Name] is pleased to announce the [Honoree Name] Scholarship, an annual award of [\$ amount] created exclusively for current or former foster youth pursuing education after high school.

The scholarship honors [Honoree Name], [role — e.g. a high school English teacher at Lincoln High School for 31 years], who [one specific thing they did]. [Optional single sentence of personal story.]

Who can apply: Applicants must be current or former foster youth, be [age range or grade], and be [enrolled in or accepted to] an accredited [college, university, or trade or career school] for [term/year]. [Add any additional criteria, e.g. residency or school.]

What is awarded: [Number] award(s) of [\$ amount], paid [to the school on the student's behalf / directly to the recipient], [once / renewable for up to X years].

How to apply: Complete the application at [link]. Required materials: [application form, short essay, verification of foster care experience, proof of enrollment].

Deadline: [Deadline date, time, and time zone]. Recipients will be notified by [notification date].

The [Honoree Name] Scholarship is funded and administered by [Sponsor Name]. Questions may be directed to [contact name, email, phone].

Where to send it

- High school counseling offices and college and career centers
- College financial aid offices and TRIO / EOP / foster youth support programs (often called Guardian Scholars, NextUp, or Fostering Success)
- County child welfare agencies and independent living program (ILP) coordinators
- Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs and foster parent associations
- Trade and career school admissions offices
- Local libraries, churches, community centers, and community foundations

Outreach email you can send with it

Sample — outreach email to a counselor or caseworker

Subject: Scholarship for current and former foster youth — [deadline date]

Hello [Name],

I'm [your name], and I've created the [Honoree Name] Scholarship: [\$ amount] for a current or former foster youth [attending / enrolling in] [college or trade school].

Would you be willing to share the attached announcement with students who might be eligible? The application is at [link] and the deadline is [date]. I'm happy to answer any questions at [email].

Thank you for the work you do,
[Your name]

A note on tone

Avoid language that treats foster care as a tragedy to overcome or asks students to prove hardship. Write as though the reader is already capable and already going — because they are. Words like “we believe in you” land better than “despite your circumstances.”

Important

This template is a general educational resource, not legal, tax, or financial advice. Thank a Teacher does not collect, hold, or distribute scholarship money, does not receive applications, and does not select recipients. The sponsor is solely responsible for funding, administering, receiving applications, selecting recipients, paying awards, and meeting all legal, tax, and compliance obligations. Please consult qualified professionals about your own situation. To be featured on thankateacher.com, a scholarship must be exclusively for current or former foster youth.