

FREE STARTER KIT

The Thank a Teacher Scholarship Starter Kit

Eight adaptable templates for creating a scholarship exclusively for current or former foster youth — in honor of someone who changed your life.

What is inside

1. Scholarship Announcement Language
2. Foster-Youth Eligibility Language
3. Application Template
4. Sample Essay Questions
5. Selection Rubric
6. Honoree Story Template
7. Recipient Notification Language
8. Launch Checklist

How to use this kit

Every template is a starting point, not a rule. Replace the bracketed fields, cut what does not apply, and keep the language that sounds like you. Each section is also available as a separate PDF at thankateacher.com/create-a-scholarship.

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.

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.”

Foster-Youth Eligibility Language

Sample wording that defines eligibility as current or former foster youth — the requirement for every scholarship featured on Thank a Teacher — plus dignified ways to verify it.

The core requirement

To be featured on thankateacher.com, a scholarship must be open exclusively to current or former foster youth. Eligibility may be narrowed further (by state, school, program, or field of study), but it may not be opened to students who were never in foster care.

Standard eligibility clause

Sample — core clause

Eligibility. This scholarship is open exclusively to applicants who are current or former foster youth. For purposes of this scholarship, that means an applicant who was placed in out-of-home care at any time on or after their [13th] birthday by order of a court or through a voluntary placement agreement with a child welfare agency, including foster family homes, relative or kinship care, group homes, residential care, or tribal foster care.

Optional additions

- **Age:** “Applicants must be between [16] and [26] years old as of [date].”
- **Enrollment:** “Applicants must be enrolled in, or accepted to, an accredited college, university, or trade or career school for [term/year].”
- **Geography:** “Applicants must be a resident of [state] or have been in foster care in [county/state].”
- **School:** “Applicants must be attending or have graduated from [school name].”
- **Academic:** “Applicants must be in good standing at their school.” (Consider whether a GPA minimum is necessary — many sponsors intentionally omit it.)
- **Program type:** “Certificate, apprenticeship, and licensure programs are eligible.”

Inclusive definitions worth keeping

- Include **kinship and relative placements** — many youth were placed with a grandparent or aunt.
- Include **tribal foster care** and placements made under the Indian Child Welfare Act.
- Include youth who were **adopted from foster care** or left care through guardianship, if you intend to.
- Include **unaccompanied refugee minors** in federal foster care, if you intend to.
- Do not require that the applicant currently be in care — most applicants have aged out.
- Do not require that the applicant have a diploma if you accept GED or HiSET completers.

Verifying foster care experience with dignity

Ask for the least documentation that satisfies you, accept more than one form of proof, and never require an applicant to recount their case history. Any of the following is normally sufficient:

- A letter or email from a caseworker, social worker, ILP coordinator, CASA volunteer, or tribal social services worker
- A letter from a campus foster youth program (Guardian Scholars, NextUp, Fostering Success, or similar)
- A court order, placement letter, or ward-of-the-court document
- A Chafee eligibility letter, foster care verification letter, or ILP participation record
- A FAFSA or state aid determination showing independent student status due to foster care
- A signed self-certification, if you choose to accept one

Sample — verification request wording

Verification. Please include one document that confirms your foster care experience. Any of the following works: a letter or email from a caseworker, social worker, independent living program coordinator, CASA volunteer, or campus foster youth program; a court or placement document; or a Chafee or foster care verification letter. You do not need to share details about your case, and you do not need to explain why you were in care. If you are unable to obtain any of these documents, contact us at [email] and we will work with you.

Privacy commitment

Sample — privacy statement

Privacy. Your application materials will be seen only by the [Sponsor Name] selection committee, will be used only to select recipients, and will not be shared, sold, or published without your written permission. Documents will be securely destroyed within [12] months of the award decision. If you are selected, we will ask for your written permission before using your name, photograph, or story publicly, and you may decline and still receive the award.

Wording to avoid

- “Underprivileged,” “at-risk,” or “troubled” youth — describe the circumstance, not the person.
- “Foster kid” — use “youth who has been in foster care.”
- Requests to “describe your hardship” or “explain what happened to you.”
- Requirements that only a parent could satisfy, such as parental tax returns or a parent signature.

Application Template

A simple, complete application structure covering the essentials — ready for you to adapt and host yourself on paper, in a form tool, or on your own website.

Design principles

- Aim for 20 minutes or less to complete. Long applications lose the students who need this most.
- Ask nothing you will not use in scoring.
- Allow saving and returning, and accept phone photos of documents.
- Provide a real human contact for anyone who gets stuck.
- Do not require a parent or guardian signature.

The [Honoree Name] Scholarship — Application Form

Deadline: [date, time, time zone]. Questions: [contact email / phone].

Section 1 — Applicant information

- Full legal name; name you prefer to be called
- Date of birth
- Email address; phone number; is text message okay? (yes / no)
- Mailing address (or “best address to reach you” — check “my address changes often”)
- Alternate contact (a person and email who can reach you)

Section 2 — Foster care experience

- I am a current or former foster youth. (yes / no)
- Approximate years you were in care: [from] to [present or year]
- State(s) or county(ies) where you were in care
- Verification document attached (see list of accepted documents) — or “I need help obtaining a document.”

Section 3 — Education

- High school, GED, or HiSET completed? Where and when?
- School you will attend or are attending; city and state
- Program or major; degree, certificate, or credential sought
- Enrollment status (full-time / part-time / not yet decided)
- Term this award would apply to
- Proof of enrollment or acceptance attached (letter, portal screenshot, or class schedule)

Section 4 — Costs and other aid (optional)

- Estimated cost of attendance for the term or year
- Other scholarships, grants, or aid you expect to receive
- What this award would help you pay for (tuition, tools, books, housing, transportation, childcare, exam or license fees)

Section 5 — Your words

- Short answer 1 (150–300 words): see the Sample Essay Questions template

- Short answer 2 (150–300 words): optional second prompt
- Anything else you would like the committee to know? (optional)

Section 6 — Reference (optional)

- Name, relationship, email, and phone of one person who knows your work — a teacher, counselor, coach, caseworker, mentor, or employer. A short email from them is enough; no formal letter required.

Section 7 — Certification and permissions

Sample — certification block

I certify that the information in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, and that I am a current or former foster youth as defined in the eligibility criteria.

I understand that [Sponsor Name] funds and administers this scholarship, and that submitting an application does not guarantee an award.

Optional: I give [Sponsor Name] permission to use my first name and photograph in announcements about this scholarship. (yes / no — my answer does not affect my application.)

Signature (typed name accepted): _____ Date: _____

Accessibility and access notes to publish alongside the form

- “You can submit by [online form / email / mail]. If none of these work for you, contact [email] and we will find another way.”
- “Photos of documents taken with your phone are fine.”
- “If you miss the deadline because of a placement change, hospitalization, or housing emergency, contact us — we will try to accommodate you.”
- “We will confirm receipt of your application within [3] business days. If you do not hear from us, email [address].”

Sample Essay Questions

Thoughtful prompts that invite applicants to share their goals, resilience, and hopes — written with care for foster youth experiences, and never requiring anyone to relive their worst days.

How to choose prompts

- Pick one required prompt and one optional prompt. Two is plenty.
- Set a short word range (150–300 words) and mean it — say that longer is not better.
- Choose prompts a student could answer honestly whether or not they want to discuss foster care.
- Score for clarity of goal and self-knowledge, not grammar or polish.

Prompts about the future

- What are you working toward, and what will this training or degree let you do?
- Describe one thing you want to be doing five years from now. What is the next step?
- What would this award make possible for you in the next twelve months?
- What kind of work do you want to be known for?

Prompts about a person who helped

These fit scholarships created to honor a teacher or mentor especially well.

- Tell us about someone who believed in you. What did they do or say?
- Who is the first person you will call with good news, and why them?
- If you could thank one adult from your life, who would it be, and what would you say?
- Who taught you something you still use? What was it?

Prompts about strength and skill

- What is something you are good at that people are surprised to learn?
- Describe a problem you solved that no one helped you with.
- What is a decision you made that you are proud of?

- Tell us about a time you kept going when it would have been reasonable to quit.

Prompts about community

- How do you want to show up for someone else once you are established?
- What would you change for the next young person in a situation like yours?
- Describe a place, group, or team where you felt like you belonged.

Optional, clearly labeled foster-care prompt

If you include a prompt about foster care, make it genuinely optional, say so, and keep the framing forward-looking.

Sample — optional prompt with framing

Optional. If you would like to, tell us anything about your time in foster care that you think matters to your education or your goals. You are not required to answer this question, and choosing not to answer will not affect your application in any way. Please share only what you are comfortable sharing.

Alternatives to written essays

Offering a choice of format widens your applicant pool and often produces better answers.

- A 2-minute video or voice recording answering the same prompt
- A short phone or video conversation with a committee member
- A portfolio, work sample, or photo of something they built, repaired, or made
- A bulleted answer instead of paragraphs

Sample — format choice wording

You may answer in writing (150–300 words), or record a video or voice memo of up to two minutes, or ask for a 15-minute phone call instead. All three options are weighted equally. Choose whichever lets you say what you mean.

Prompts to avoid

- “Describe the greatest hardship you have overcome.”
- “Why were you removed from your home?”
- “How has your family shaped your values?” (assumes a family narrative)
- “Describe your parents' influence on your education.”
- Anything requiring paid test scores, travel, or a printer to answer.

Selection Rubric

A fair, transparent scoring guide your selection committee can use to review applications consistently — plus the conflict-of-interest and record-keeping practices that keep the process credible.

Before you score

1. Confirm eligibility first (foster care experience, enrollment, any geographic limits). Eligibility is pass or fail, not scored.
2. Remove names and identifying details if you can, and give each application a number.
3. Have at least two readers score every application independently before discussing any of them.
4. Ask each committee member to sign the conflict-of-interest statement below.
5. Agree in advance what happens in a tie.

Scoring dimensions

Five dimensions, 4 points each, 20 points total. Adjust weights to match what you care about, but keep the total simple to add.

1. Clarity of goal (0–4)

- 4 — Names a specific program, credential, or career and the next concrete step
- 3 — Clear direction with some specifics
- 2 — General direction, few specifics
- 1 — Unclear or contradictory
- 0 — Not addressed

2. Persistence and self-direction (0–4)

- 4 — Gives concrete evidence of following through on their own initiative
- 3 — Some clear evidence
- 2 — General statements without examples
- 1 — Little evidence
- 0 — Not addressed

3. Impact of the award (0–4)

- 4 — Award removes a specific, identified barrier (tools, tuition gap, exam fee, transportation)
- 3 — Clear benefit described
- 2 — General benefit
- 1 — Vague
- 0 — Not addressed

4. Connection to the honoree's spirit (0–4)

- 4 — Reflects the quality your honoree stood for — [name it: curiosity, craftsmanship, service, grit]
- 3 — Reflects it in part
- 2 — Partially aligned
- 1 — Little alignment
- 0 — Not addressed

5. Readiness to use the award this term (0–4)

- 4 — Enrolled or accepted with dates confirmed
- 3 — Applied, decision pending
- 2 — Plans to apply, timeline given
- 1 — Exploring options
- 0 — No plan yet

Scoring sheet

Application #: _____ Reader: _____ Date: _____

- Clarity of goal ____ / 4
- Persistence and self-direction ____ / 4
- Impact of the award ____ / 4
- Connection to the honoree's spirit ____ / 4
- Readiness this term ____ / 4
- Total ____ / 20
- Notes and recommendation: _____

What not to score

- Spelling, grammar, typing, or writing polish — score the substance
- Prestige or selectivity of the school; treat trade and certificate programs equally
- GPA beyond your stated minimum
- How much hardship an applicant disclosed, or whether they answered an optional prompt
- Whether the applicant is “deserving” in a moral sense

Conflict-of-interest statement

Sample — committee member statement

I will disclose any personal, family, employment, or financial relationship with an applicant, and I will recuse myself from scoring and from discussion of that application. I will keep all application materials confidential, will not copy or retain them, and will not discuss applicants outside committee meetings.

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Tie-breakers and records

- Decide the tie-break rule in advance — for example, greater unmet financial need, or the readiness score.
- Record the final score, the decision, and a one-line rationale for each applicant.
- Keep scoring records for [3] years and destroy application materials within [12] months.
- If you receive far more strong applications than awards, consider a small number of modest additional awards rather than raising the bar arbitrarily.

Honoree Story Template

A gentle structure for telling the story of the person your scholarship honors — who they were, and what they changed in you.

Why the story matters

The story is what makes a scholarship feel like a thank-you instead of a transaction. It tells applicants what the award stands for, it tells your community why you did this, and it keeps a person's name in use. Aim for 200–400 words — one page, read aloud in two minutes.

Five-part structure

1. **The moment.** One specific scene. A hallway, a classroom, a shop floor, a kitchen table. What was said or done?
2. **The person.** Their name, their role, where and when. Two or three details only someone who knew them would know.
3. **The change.** What was different in you afterward — a decision, a habit, a door that opened.
4. **The through-line.** The quality you want this scholarship to carry forward.
5. **The passing on.** Why foster youth, and why now.

Prompts to get you writing

- What did they say that you still repeat to yourself?
- What did they do that they probably thought was small?
- What did they see in you before you saw it?
- What did their classroom, shop, office, or kitchen look and sound like?
- What would they say if they knew a scholarship carried their name?
- If a student receiving this award met them, what would they notice first?

Worked example

Sample — honoree story

The [Honoree Name] Scholarship

[Mr. Honoree] taught [subject] at [school] for [number] years. [He/She/They] kept [a specific object] on [his/her/their] desk and [a specific habit].

In [year], I was [describe your situation in one plain sentence — no self-pity, no detail you would not want read aloud]. [Honoree] [did the one specific thing]. [He/She/They] never mentioned it again.

That [conversation / afternoon / job] is the reason I [outcome]. I do not know who I would be otherwise.

[Honoree] believed that [the quality — e.g. every young person deserves one adult who assumes they will succeed]. This scholarship carries that belief to young people who have often had the fewest such adults: current and former foster youth. Each year it goes to a student who is going somewhere, and who could use one person to say so out loud.

— [Your name], [relationship to honoree], [year]

If your honoree has died

- Consider telling their family before you announce. Most are deeply moved; a few prefer privacy.
- Ask the family for one detail or photograph to include.
- Use present tense for the quality and past tense for the person: “She believed — and that belief still does work.”
- “In memory of” is appropriate; “in honor of” suits a living honoree.

Permissions and accuracy

- Get written permission before using a living honoree's full name or photograph.
- Verify dates, job titles, school names, and spellings — especially of names.
- Do not describe another person's private circumstances, including a student's, without their permission.
- Keep your own story simple. You are introducing the honoree, not writing a memoir.

Where to use the story

- On your application page, so applicants know what the award stands for
- In your announcement to schools and caseworkers
- In the notification letter to your recipient
- In your submission to Thank a Teacher, so we can share it with your listing

Recipient Notification Language

Celebratory wording for notifying your recipient, considerate wording for applicants who were not selected, and the practical details that make an award actually reach a student.

Ground rules

- Notify everyone — selected or not — on the date you promised.
- Tell the recipient first, and confirm they accept before announcing anything publicly.
- Never announce a name, school, or photograph without written permission.
- Say exactly how and when the money moves, and who to contact with questions.

The award letter or email

Sample — recipient notification

Subject: You have been selected — [Honoree Name] Scholarship

Dear [Name],

Congratulations. You have been selected to receive the [Honoree Name] Scholarship for [term/year], in the amount of [\$ amount].

The committee chose your application because [one or two specific, genuine reasons — name something they actually wrote or did].

This scholarship honors [Honoree Name], who [one line]. Sending it to you is how we say thank you to [him/her/them].

Next steps. Please reply by [date] to confirm you accept. We will then need [proof of enrollment / school's student ID or account number / a completed [W-9 or equivalent] if required]. Funds will be [sent to your school's financial aid office and applied to your account / paid directly to you] by [date].

Two things to know. Scholarship funds may affect your other financial aid, so please tell your financial aid office about this award. Depending on how funds are used, part of an award may be taxable — we recommend asking a tax professional or your school's aid office.

Permission (optional). We would love to share your first name and, if you like, a photo when we announce this year's award. You are free to say no, and your award is not affected either way.

We are glad you are going. If anything gets in the way this term, tell us — we would rather know.

With admiration,
[Name], [Sponsor Name]
[email] · [phone]

Not-selected notification

Be brief, warm, and specific about what happens next. Do not rank the applicant, and do not explain in a way that invites debate.

Sample — not selected

Subject: [Honoree Name] Scholarship — decision

Dear [Name],

Thank you for applying for the [Honoree Name] Scholarship. We were able to make [number] award(s) this year, and we are not able to offer you one.

That is not a judgment of you or your plans. We read every application closely, and yours [one true, specific, kind observation].

A few things that may help: [thankateacher.com/find-a-scholarship] lists scholarships created exclusively for current and former foster youth; your school's financial aid office can tell you about foster youth aid programs; and if you are in [state], [state-specific program] may apply to you.

You are welcome to apply again [next cycle date] if you are still eligible.

With respect,

[Name], [Sponsor Name]

Other messages you will need

Receipt confirmation

Sample — application received

We have your application for the [Honoree Name] Scholarship. Nothing more is needed right now. Everyone will hear from us by [date], whether or not they are selected. Questions: [email].

Missing materials

Sample — something is missing

Your application is nearly complete — we still need [item]. A phone photo is fine. If you are having trouble getting it, reply and tell us; we will work with you. We need it by [date] to include you in this cycle.

Announcement (after permission)

Sample — public announcement

[Sponsor Name] is proud to announce that [First Name or full name, as permitted] is the [year] recipient of the [Honoree Name] Scholarship. [He/She/They] will be studying [program] at [school]. The scholarship honors [Honoree Name], who [one line]. Congratulations, [First Name] — we cannot wait to see what you do.

Thank-you to your honoree or their family**Sample — note to the honoree's family**

I wanted you to know that the [Honoree Name] Scholarship was awarded this month to [a student / [First Name]], who is studying [program] at [school]. [Honoree]'s name is still doing what it always did. Thank you for sharing [him/her/them] with us.

Launch Checklist

A step-by-step checklist from naming your scholarship to announcing your first recipient — and getting your listing featured on Thank a Teacher.

Phase 1 — Decide (week 1)

- ☐ Choose your honoree and confirm how their name may be used
- ☐ Name the scholarship (for example, “The [Honoree Name] Scholarship for Foster Youth”)
- ☐ Decide the award amount and the number of awards
- ☐ Decide whether it is one-time, annual, or renewable
- ☐ Decide who is eligible — current or former foster youth, plus any school, state, or program limits
- ☐ Decide the education levels you will fund: college, university, trade or career school, certificate, apprenticeship
- ☐ Write your honoree story (see Template 6)

Phase 2 — Structure and money (weeks 2–3)

- ☐ Choose how you will hold and pay the award: personally, through your business, through your church or nonprofit, through a community foundation donor-advised fund, or through the school's foundation
- ☐ If you want donations to be tax-deductible, talk to a community foundation, a nonprofit fiscal sponsor, or your own advisor first
- ☐ Ask a tax professional how you should document the award and whether any reporting applies
- ☐ Confirm whether you will pay the school directly (usually simplest for the student's aid) or pay the student
- ☐ Set the funds aside before you announce, so the award is certain
- ☐ Decide who reviews applications — at least two people, ideally three
- ☐ Write down your selection process and keep it (see Template 5)

Phase 3 — Build the application (weeks 3–4)

- ☐ Adapt the application template (Template 3) and eligibility language (Template 2)
- ☐ Choose one or two essay prompts and offer a video or voice option (Template 4)
- ☐ List the verification documents you accept, and offer help to anyone who cannot get one
- ☐ Set the deadline, notification date, and award payment date — and put all three in writing
- ☐ Choose how applications arrive: online form, email, or mail
- ☐ Decide where application materials are stored, who can see them, and when they are destroyed
- ☐ Publish a contact email and a real person's name for questions
- ☐ Ask one young person or one counselor to test the application and time it

Phase 4 — Announce (week 5)

- ☐ Adapt the announcement language (Template 1), short and long versions
- ☐ Send it to high school counselors, college financial aid offices, and campus foster youth programs
- ☐ Send it to county child welfare agencies, ILP coordinators, CASA programs, and foster parent associations
- ☐ Send it to trade and career school admissions offices in your area
- ☐ Post it where your community will see it
- ☐ Submit your scholarship at thankateacher.com/submit-a-scholarship to be verified and featured
- ☐ Confirm your listing details — school or open to any school, amount, deadline, and application link

Phase 5 — Review and award

- ☐ Acknowledge every application within a few days of receipt
- ☐ Screen for eligibility, then score independently with the rubric
- ☐ Have committee members sign the conflict-of-interest statement
- ☐ Meet, discuss, decide, and record a one-line rationale for each decision
- ☐ Notify the recipient first and confirm they accept (Template 7)
- ☐ Collect the payment details your process requires, then pay by the date you promised

- ☐ Notify everyone who was not selected on the promised date
- ☐ Get written permission before publishing any name or photograph
- ☐ Announce the award and thank your honoree or their family

Phase 6 — Keep it going

- ☐ Write down what you would change next cycle, while it is fresh
- ☐ Note which outreach channels produced applicants
- ☐ Set next year's dates and fund the next award
- ☐ Check in with your recipient mid-term, with no strings attached
- ☐ Update your Thank a Teacher listing with the new deadline and amount
- ☐ Consider inviting one or two others to co-fund a second award

What Thank a Teacher does and does not do

We provide inspiration, templates, verification of featured listings, storytelling, and referrals. We do not collect, hold, or distribute scholarship money, we do not receive applications, and we do not select recipients. You may use these templates or build your scholarship entirely your own way — either way, a scholarship that serves current or former foster youth exclusively can be submitted to be featured.