

Children's Fund and Children's Network's 'Shine-a-Light' on Child Abuse Awards Scholarship Nomination Criteria

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

This year's nomination process requires an essay be submitted by the youth. The case manager is **not** required to provide an essay, but will need to complete the nomination form and submit the youth's essay online. In their essay, the youth may choose to share information about their life circumstances, challenges, and achievements, but it is important the youth define their educational goals and how the scholarship funds will be used. Report cards may be submitted as **additional** documentation.

THE YOUTH'S EDUCATION STATUS

- Must be graduating this year
- May have already graduated and has plans to attend college or trade school
- Could be a former system-involved youth who is currently enrolled in a college or trade program
- Can be an Extended Foster Care Youth

WHO CAN NOMINATE?

Nominations may be made by the youth's current case manager. While the youth has to write the essay, it is the case manager who will complete the online form and attach the youth's essay.

Some examples of case managers include:

- Social Worker (i.e. - Children and Family Services, Foster Family Agency)
- Group Home Counselor
- Probation Officer
- Department of Behavioral Health Case Manager
- Foster Youth Liaison
- Homeless Youth Liaison
- CASA Worker
- Mentor
- Teacher or tutor
- Other

SELECTION PROCESS

The Scholarship Selection Committee is made up of various Children's Fund Board members. The only information the committee has to review is the essay submitted by the youth, so the more detailed information provided, the more informed decision they can make.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Children's Fund will award 10 scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$2500. Scholarship awards will be presented to the youth at the 18th Annual 'Shine-a-Light' on Child Abuse Awards Breakfast to be held at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 7, 2016 at the National Orange Show Events Center in San Bernardino, CA.