

CITY OF VINELAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.

GEAR UP SCHOLARSHIP POLICY (Requirements for Awards)

The GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) Program (hereinafter referred to as "Grantor"), shall be administered, by the Vineland Public School District in conjunction with the City of Vineland Education Foundation, Inc. (hereinafter referred to as "Foundation") to determine the award of scholarships, consistent with the criteria set forth below:

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. GEAR UP SCHOLARSHIPS shall be awarded on a priority basis to students who will receive or are eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant during the award year.
2. If GEAR UP scholarship funds remain after awarding scholarships to students who have provided documentation of Federal Pell Grant eligibility on or before June 1, GEAR UP scholarships may be awarded to other eligible students (who will not receive a Pell Grant), after considering the need of those students for GEAR UP scholarships.
3. Scholarships shall be awarded in successive award years to each student who received an initial undergraduate scholarship and who continues to be eligible for an undergraduate scholarship, not to exceed four academic years.
4. Student(s) must be less than 22 years old at the time of the first scholarship award.
5. Student(s) must receive a secondary school diploma from the Vineland Public School District.
6. Students(s) shall enroll in a program of undergraduate instruction at an educational institution within New Jersey; at the sole discretion of the Vineland GEAR UP Program, however, students may enroll in an undergraduate educational institution outside New Jersey.
7. The total amount awarded to a student shall not exceed the students' total cost of attendance, which may include the cost of courses, fees, books and related educational costs. Scholarship funds shall be awarded only for the fall and spring semesters (or their equivalent). Scholarship funds shall not be awarded for the summer semester.
8. To be initially eligible for a scholarship award student(s) must be active participants and not have been removed from the GEAR UP Program, consistent with the Policy adopted by the Vineland Education Foundation on April 19, 2004.
9. Scholarship awards shall be contingent upon continued and adequate federal funding of the GEAR UP Program.
10. Grantor retains the right to make determinations concerning the award of scholarships, consistent with the purpose(s) for which the GEAR UP Program was established.

11. Students shall have, as a condition of continued eligibility, the obligation to notify the Grantor of all information which may affect continued eligibility.

12. Appeal(s) from the denial of a scholarship award may be made to and shall be determined by the Foundation or a committee duly designated by the Foundation pursuant to its By-Laws, consistent with this Policy.

13. Payment of scholarship awards shall be made directly to the undergraduate educational institution.

14. In order to obtain GEAR UP Scholarship funding after the initial year of enrollment, students must maintain satisfactory academic progress standards as established by their undergraduate educational institution.

15. Scholarship awards shall be made pursuant to the 1998 Amendments to Higher Education Act (the “Act”) of 1965, P.L. 105-244, Section 404E Scholarship Component and 34 CFR Part 694 (the “Regulations”). If any provision in this policy is deemed to conflict with the Act or the Regulations, the Act and/or the Regulations shall govern.

16. Scholarship awards shall be recommended by the Gear Up Director, after consultation with the Superintendent of the Vineland School District, to the Vineland Education Association no later than May 1 of the school year prior to the students’ graduation. Scholarship awards shall be approved by the Foundation at its May meeting preceding students’ graduation.

Adopted: April 4, 2005

Amended: July 31, 2006