



The Mary Grace Shearer MSW Scholarship for the Advancement of Social Work is established for students entering their junior or senior year of college majoring in social work at CSWE accredited bachelor's degree program in selected counties in Pennsylvania. The eligible student would have at least a 3.0 GPA and financial need that the award could supplement. The scholarship is designed to recruit students who will promote the highest standards of professional social work by enhancing their knowledge base and skill levels.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Enrolled as a junior or senior in a four-year college or university as a full-time or part-time student
2. Attends a college or university that has a Social Work program accredited by [the Council of Social Work Education](#) in one of the following Pennsylvania Counties: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lancaster, Lycoming, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Union, York
3. Student must have declared Social work as their major
4. Academic achievement, with a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher
5. Financial need

HOW TO APPLY

The application process is online. You can access and submit the application beginning January 1.

[Click here](#) to access the online application.

If you are signing back in to complete your application, please [click here](#).

Before accessing the application, be prepared to attach the following items:

***** YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION UNTIL THESE ITEMS ARE ATTACHED*****

1. Other Scholarship Information: [Click here](#) to download the fill-in Word document that you should complete, save, and attach to your application.
2. Student Resume: [Click here](#) to download the fill-in Word document that you should complete, save, and attach to your application.
3. FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR): Please attach the report in its entirety. This report must include the Estimated Family Contribution (EFC). Please be aware that the SAR is **not** the same as the Summary Report. In addition to the SAR, you may also provide a letter with information you believe will be useful in determining your financial need (e.g., family and student income). Are there extenuating circumstances of which we should be aware? For example, illness in the family, loss of employment, or other relevant information?
4. Personal Essay: Share an experience(s) that brought you to major in social work. Describe how you will make a difference in promoting and enhancing the profession. 500 words maximum, typewritten, 12 pt. font, double spaced.

The following requirements must be emailed to scholarshipapplications@tfec.org separately. These items will not appear as attachments to your online application or prevent you from submitting:

The following requirements must be emailed to scholarshipapplications@tfec.org by your personal references:

1. *Two (2) Personal Reference Letters. At least one letter should be from a college faculty member on school letterhead. Letters may also be submitted by a college advisor, mentor, or internship supervisor. Letters from family members will not be accepted. All reference letters must remain confidential.*

Your Official Transcript must be mailed or sent as a certified PDF emailed directly from your university. It is your responsibility to ensure that your transcript is received by the deadline. The transcript **must be received** by the deadline, **not postmarked**.

Mail Official Transcript to:

The Foundation for Enhancing Communities
Mary Grace Shearer MSW Scholarship
Attn: Ash Morley, Scholarship Associate
200 N. 3rd Street, 8th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101

OR

Email Official Transcript to:

scholarshipapplications@tfec.org
Ash Morley, Scholarship Associate

RENEWABILITY

Recipients of this scholarship may reapply for one additional year. Students will be reconsidered by the scholarship committee by completing the full application process.

MATCHING AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

AES/PHEAA's PATH Program: Scholarship recipients are eligible to have their awards matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis by AES/PHEAA's *PATH ("Partnerships for Access to Higher Education") Program*. PHEAA may grant matching funds to scholarship recipients who are enrolled in an approved Pennsylvania college or career school as an undergraduate student on at least a half-time basis, who are a Pennsylvania state grant recipient and who demonstrate financial need. Students must also be a resident of Pennsylvania, not in default on any educational loans, maintain academic progress, and not be considered an incarcerated student. The match provides last-dollar support for tuition and fees. *Scholarship funds used for reimbursement of textbook purchases are not eligible for a PATH Program match.* The scholarship recipient's information is submitted to PHEAA by TFEC staff. No additional work will be asked of the scholarship recipient. For more information regarding AES/PHEAA, please refer to their website at www.pheaa.org.