

2023 BCMW COMMUNITY SERVICES
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
Information Sheet

GENERAL INFORMATION

BCMW Community Services is offering 5 (five) \$1,000 scholarships for the 2023-2024 academic year to low-income students desiring to further their education at a two- year community college, vocational school, or four- year college or university. The scholarships are made possible through the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Program which is funded by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. Award recipients may use their scholarships for education expenses, and payments will be sent directly to the schools. BCMW Community Services encourages all potentially eligible applicants to enter this scholarship competition. All applications must be returned to BCMW, 909 E. Rexford, P.O. Box 729, Centralia, IL 62801 by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 31, 2023.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Must be a permanent resident of Bond, Clinton, Marion, or Washington County.
2. Must have a high school diploma or GED.
3. Must be enrolled as full-time student (12 or more credit hours) at an accredited two (2) year or four (4) year college, university, or vocational training program.
4. Must maintain at least a C average: 2.0 if on a 4-point scale, 3.0 if on a 5-point scale.
5. Must demonstrate a commitment to career goals.
6. Must have financial need whereby total household income before taxes for the past 30 days is not greater than:

<u>FAMILY SIZE</u>	<u>INCOME GUIDELINES</u>
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1	\$2,430
2	3,287
3	4,143
4	5,000
5	5,857
6	6,713
7	7,570
8	8,427

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Interested applicants should submit all the following items to: BCMW Community Services, 909 E. Rexford, P.O. Box 729, Centralia, IL 62801; Attn: Liz Garner by the deadline date of Thursday, March 31, 2023, by 3:00p.m.

1. The application forms completed in full which includes a Community Services Block Grant STARS Intake to be completed before funds will be disbursed.
2. **Proof of total household income for the past 30 days.** If income is from other than employment, please contact me if you have questions on what documentation to provide.
3. Your career goals statement.
4. Three letters of recommendation (may utilize the forms enclosed) attesting to the applicant's commitment to his/her career goals. No letters of recommendation will be accepted from relatives or applicants.
5. A copy of the applicant's most current grades (transcript) or GED test score. Please request from the school that they be sent to BCMW Community Services, P.O. Box 729, Centralia, IL 62801, and Attn: Liz Garner.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Applicants will be judged by a scholarship committee composed of members of the BCMW Board of Directors and Staff. This committee will review all written applications submitted by the deadline date of Thursday, March 31, 2023. Applications will be judged according to the following criteria and percentages:

1. Financial Need – 30% as evidenced by the applicant residing in a household which falls at or below the income guidelines.
2. Scholarship Potential – 30% as evidenced by the applicant's most current grade point average or GED test score.
3. Career Goals – 25% as evidenced by three letters of recommendation and the applicant's own career goals statement.
4. Interview/Discussion – 15%

The judging will be conducted in two phases. Phase I will consist of the Scholarship Committee selecting the top candidates based on judging criteria 1-3 above. Phase II consists of these applicants being notified by mail by April 17, 2023, requesting them to participate in a personal interview/discussion with the Scholarship Committee. The final selection of award recipients will be based on this interview/discussion and winners will be notified no later than April 29, 2023.

SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENT

The scholarship awards will be paid directly to the two-year community college, vocational school, or four-year college or university. The scholarship awards may be utilized for education expenses.

If for some reason the award recipient cannot accept the award, the scholarship will automatically be awarded to the Alternate and Runner-Up in successive order. All applicants will receive notification in writing from BCMW Community Services as to their standing by April 29, 2023. Please contact Liz Garner at 618-532-7388, ext. 146 or liz.garner@bcmw-il.org if you have any questions regarding the BCMW Community Services Scholarship Program.

Note: Please retain these first three pages for your information

BCMW COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
2023 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

APPLICATION FORM

PERSONAL DATA

Name_____Telephone_____

Address_____Town/Zip_____

County of Residence_____SS#_____

FINANCIAL DATA

Household Size_____ (List all members including yourself)

Total Household Gross Income for the past 30 days

Wages_____

Social Security_____

Unemployment_____

SSI/AABD/GA_____

TANF_____

Other_____

TOTAL_____

If there are any unusual financial circumstances, please explain.

EDUCATION BACKGROUND

High School Attended _____

Attended from _____ to _____ Graduated ____ Yes ____ No

GED ____ Yes ____ No

Previous College Attended _____

Attended from _____ to _____ Graduated ____ Yes ____ No

Please circle academic Class for 2023-2024 academic year:

Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Most current cumulative grade point average at the end of the last semester or GED test score _____

____ 4.0 System ____ 5.0 System

College or Vocational school you plan to attend: _____

Date of Application _____ Accepted ____ Yes ____ No

Major _____

Do you plan to attend full time (12 or more credit hours)? ____ Yes ____ No

What other scholarships have you applied for?

Please list all scholarships you are receiving (including the monetary amount.)

CIVIC AFFAIRS, AWARDS, ACTIVITIES

List any school or community activities awards, organizations, clubs, offices, or honors you would like to bring to the attention of the scholarship committee.

CAREER GOALS

Please attach a 100-to-200-word statement concerning your career goals and the reason(s) you are interested in that profession.

I certify that the information I have provided is a complete and accurate disclosure of the requested information. I authorize BCMW to verify the information provided.

Applicant Signature

Date

BCMw COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Personal Recommendation Form

Name of Applicant _____

Please type or print clearly. If additional space is needed, please use back of sheet or attach additional pages.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

2. Describe any knowledge you have of this individual's commitment to their career goals.

3. Any Additional comments.

Name

Position

Address

Phone

City

Please return this form by March 31, 2023 to: Liz Garner,
BCMw Community Services
P.O. Box 729, 909 E. Rexford
Centralia, IL 62801
Fax: 618-532-0204
Liz.garner@bcmw-il.org

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