



Education Justice Project (EJP)

Education Justice Project Scholarship Packet

Due November 1, 2017

WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in participating in the EJP scholarship program! Because the application process is competitive, we ask that you carefully review the instructions, deadlines, and eligibility requirements so that we may give your application full consideration. **We appreciate receiving your application and look forward to reading your answers!** This scholarship application packet is also available at: www.educationjustice.net

About the EJP Scholarship Program

The Education Justice Project (EJP) of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has offered courses to incarcerated students at Danville Correctional Center since 2008. In keeping with our efforts to promote higher education, we have a scholarship program. In Fall 2017, we will host the following five scholarship competitions:

- One \$500 scholarship to a family member of an EJP student;
- One \$500 scholarship to a family member of an IDOC or IDJJ staff person;
- One \$500 scholarship to a family member of an incarcerated individual
- Two \$500 scholarships to individuals who have been released from an IDOC adult facility
- One \$500 scholarship to an individual who has been incarcerated in an IDJJ juvenile facility

Scholarship funds must be applied towards attendance at an accredited program of higher education, [e.g. applied to registration costs, books and supplies, fees,] or other costs directly associated with participating in a higher education program.

Your final application will consist of the following materials:

- 1.) The Scholarship Application (completed and signed)
- 2.) An additional document that addresses the three questions in the application
- 3.) Verification of enrollment in a higher education program at an accredited academic institution

Please submit all materials by November 1, 2017 to:

Attn: Scholarships
Education Justice Project
805 W. Pennsylvania Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801



Education Justice Project

Due November 1, 2017

INSTRUCTION SHEET

Eligibility Requirements (*PLEASE READ CAREFULLY*)

To be eligible, you must meet the criteria for the type of scholarship you are applying for, as follows:

- **Formerly incarcerated individual released from an adult IDOC facility.** To be eligible, you must have been incarcerated in an adult IDOC facility, provide IDOC#, and years of incarceration.
- **Formerly incarcerated individual released from a juvenile IDJJ facility.** To be eligible, you must have been incarcerated in a juvenile IDJJ facility, provide IDJJ#, and years of incarceration.
- **Family member of EJP student.** To qualify, you must be a family member of a current or former EJP student. "Family member" is defined as spouse, grandparent, step grandparent, grandchild, step grandchild, parent, step parent, child, or stepchild.
- **Family member of IDOC or IDJJ staff.** To be eligible, you must be a family member of a current employee in an IDOC or IDJJ facility. "Family member" is defined as spouse, grandparent, step grandparent, grandchild, step grandchild, parent, step parent, child, or stepchild.
- **Family member of someone incarcerated in state prison in Illinois.** To be eligible, you must be the family member of someone who is currently incarcerated in an adult IDOC facility. "Family member" is defined as spouse, grandparent, step grandparent, grandchild, step grandchild, parent, step parent, child, or stepchild.

US Citizenship is not required.

Instructions for Applying

Complete and sign the Scholarship Application and return it, along with a one-page essay, with verification of enrollment at an accredited academic institution.

Verification of Enrollment

You must provide verification of enrollment in the program. Acceptable forms of verification include a copy of your letter of acceptance, course registration confirmation, recent transcript, or correspondence sent to all enrolled students. If you have not yet been accepted to the program, we will require confirmation of acceptance before dispersing any funds. EJP reserves the right to rescind the award if such confirmation is not forthcoming in a timely manner.

Selection Process

Each application will be reviewed by a committee that consists of both EJP members and non-EJP University of Illinois instructors. The committee members will review applications blind; i.e. they will not know whose applications they are reviewing. This is to ensure a fair selection process. The

criteria for awarding the scholarship are financial need and strength of essay. **EJP alumni will receive preference for one** of the two scholarships awarded to formerly incarcerated individuals.

Notification

After your application packet has been received, EJP will send an email to confirm its receipt. EJP anticipates making decisions in early December 2017, and will notify all applicants of their status. Always, feel free to contact the scholarship program at scholarships@educationjustice.net

WHAT YOU ARE AGREEING TO BY SIGNING THE APPLICATION

- The information provided in the application is accurate and truthful.
- If awarded a scholarship you will write and submit to EJP a one page letter describing how the funds were used, before December 31, 2018.
- You are willing to participate in a scholarship award ceremony (if asked) and are willing to allow EJP to use your photograph or excerpts from your essay within its publications, website, or social media account.
- Acknowledgment that EJP would like to stay connected to its scholarship applicants, and appreciates the ability to contact participants annually.
- If awarded a scholarship, you will contact EJP immediately if you withdrawal from your educational program and reimburse EJP any amount of the initial award requested.

For questions about EJP scholarships, please contact scholarship@educationjustice.net
For general inquiries, please contact EJP at info@educationjustice.net



Education Justice Project

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant's name _____

Applicant's
Address _____

Applicant's
Email _____

Applicant's
Phone _____
(cell) (home)

Select the category for which you would like to be considered and complete the required information for that choice:

___ Formerly Incarcerated Individual (adult IDOC)
IDOC # _____ Years incarcerated _____ to _____

___ Formerly Incarcerated Individual (juvenile IDJJ)
IDJJ# _____ Years incarcerated _____ to _____

___ Family member of an EJP student
Name of EJP student _____
Relationship to you _____

___ Family member of an incarcerated individual
Name of incarcerated person _____
IDOC# of incarcerated person _____
Relationship to you _____

___ Family member of IDOC or IDJJ staff
Name of staff member _____
Facility of employment _____

Name of accredited academic program (university or college) to which funds would be applied:

Please complete the following questions in essay format on a separate sheet of paper and staple it to the application before submission. You may also include additional information about yourself and your educational plans. But at a minimum, your essay must address:

1. What is your major, career goal, or anticipated area of study?
2. Has being incarcerated OR having an incarcerated family member OR having a family member work in a prison affected your academic or career goals? Please describe.
3. Do you have other funding available for school, such as grants, scholarships, fellowships, or assistantships? Please do not count loans when addressing the question.

By signing this Scholarship Application, you agree that any funds received will be applied towards attendance at an accredited program of higher education in 2018 and to write a 1 page letter explaining how you used the funds. This letter is due before December 31, 2018. You also agree to notify EJP immediately in the event of disenrollment.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Please be sure your application is complete, that it is signed, that you have included the answered questions in essay format in a separate document, and that you have provided verification of enrollment in an accredited academic program. Incomplete applications will not be considered, so take the time to go through your application thoroughly.

Please submit materials to:

Attn: SCHOLARSHIPS
Education Justice Project
805 W. Pennsylvania Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801

For questions about EJP scholarships, please contact scholarship@educationjustice.net
For general inquiries, please contact EJP at info@educationjustice.net