



Education Justice Project

Education Justice Project Scholarship Packet (Returning Citizen)

Due April 15, 2015

FILING INFORMATION

The Education Justice Project 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 Spring 2015 we will host the following scholarship competition:

- two \$500 scholarships to returning citizens who have been incarcerated within the past five years within the state of Illinois

EJP alumni will receive preference for one returning citizen scholarship.

This scholarship packet consists of 5 pages: this sheet containing filing information, Instruction Sheets, and Cover Sheet. (The Cover Sheet is actually 2 pages long). Please read over the entire packet before filling it out to make sure that you or your nominee meets all eligibility requirements. Please be sure to sign the Cover Sheet before you submit it and to supply all requested information. Incomplete applications and applications that do not meet all eligibility requirements will not be considered.

Scholarship funds must be applied toward 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 the higher education program.

This scholarship application packet is also available over the Internet at:

www.educationjustice.net

The final application will consist of the following materials: completed and signed Cover Sheet, 1-2 page essay, and verification of enrollment. Please enclose all the materials in an envelope and mail to the Education Justice Project at the address below. The application must be postmarked no later than April 15, 2015. Do not submit your application to any prison office, prison staff, or to an EJP staff member. Please do not submit it electronically. We must receive a hard copy, submitted through the mail or hand-delivered to the address below. Thank you. Please address any questions to

info@educationjustice.net.

Education Justice Project
805 W. Pennsylvania Ave.
Urbana, IL 61801
217.300.5150



Education Justice Project

Education Justice Project Scholarship Packet (Returning Citizen) Due April 15, 2015

INSTRUCTION SHEET

The Education Justice Project will award two \$500 scholarships in May 2015 to returning citizens. If you or someone you know has been incarcerated in a state facility within five years of April 15, 2015 and are or will be enrolled in an accredited higher education program, you may apply or you may nominate a deserving candidate. Please read over the entire application before filling it out to make sure that you or your nominee meets all eligibility requirements. Please be sure to sign the form before you submit it and to supply all requested information. Incomplete applications and applications that do not meet eligibility requirements will not be considered.

Scholarship funds must be spent during fall 2015 or spring 2016. Winners must agree to write a 1-2 page letter explaining how they used the funds. Excerpts of this letter may be reprinted in EJP material, e.g. the EJP newsletter, website, or promotional materials. The letter is due by April 01, 2016.

Winners agree to notify the Education Justice Project immediately if they dis-enroll in their program and to reimburse EJP whatever proportion of the awards is requested by EJP appropriate to the circumstances.

In addition to completing the Cover Sheet, please submit a 1-2 page essay, typed, that helps us understand why you are applying for the scholarship and what you would use the awarded funds for. If you are nominating another individual, please use this essay to explain why you believe he or she would make a good candidate to receive the scholarship. Please be sure to include details about the program in which you or your nominee is enrolled, and what it means for you or your nominee to pursue higher education. Finally, because this is a need-based award, please address the question of financial need in your essay. Applicants who do not demonstrate financial need are not eligible for the scholarship.

Eligibility Requirements

You or your nominee must have been incarcerated in a state facility in Illinois and released within the past five years (no earlier than April 15, 2010). The Funds must be applied to an accredited higher education program. You or your nominee must be enrolled in the program or have received notice of acceptance. U.S. citizenship is not required.

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 returning citizen scholarships. However, if no EJP alumni are eligible or considered

worthy by the selection committee, that scholarship can be awarded to a non-EJP alumnus.

Applicants will be notified by EJP in mid-May.

..



Education Justice Project

Education Justice Project Scholarship Packet (Returning Citizen) Due April 15, 2015

COVER SHEET

Education Justice Project Scholarship Packet (Returning Citizen)
Due April 15, 2015

Your Name _____

Are you (check one)

Applying on behalf of yourself _____

Applying on behalf of someone else _____

If you are applying on behalf of someone else, please write that person's name below:

Nominee's Name: _____

Answer all the questions below with respect to the person that the scholarship is for, whether that is you or your nominee.

Dates of incarceration _____

Applicants must have been incarcerated in Illinois some time within five years of the application deadline, i.e. since April 15, 2010. If you are unsure whether you qualify, please contact info@educationjustice.net or call 217.300.5150.

Postal Address

Email Address

Phone Number

_____ (cell) _____ (home)

Name of accredited program (provide the name of institution) to which funds would be applied:

You must provide verification of enrollment in the program. Acceptable forms of verification include a copy of the letter of acceptance, course registration confirmation, recent transcript, or correspondence sent to all enrolled students. If you or your nominee 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.

If you are filling in this application on behalf of someone else, this is the time to provide your own information, below. If you are applying on your own behalf, you can skip this section.

Nominator's Postal Address

Nominator's Email Address

Nominator's Phone Number

(cell)

(home)

At some point, we will need the signature of the successful applicant. If you are applying on your own behalf, please sign this form now, on the space below.

By signing this Cover Sheet, you agree that any funds will be applied towards attendance at an accredited program of higher education in 2015/2016 and to write a 1-2 page letter explaining how you used the funds. This letter is due by April 01, 2016. You also agree to notify EJP immediately in the event of disenrollment.

Signature _____

If you are applying on someone else's behalf and want to keep it a surprise, please sign below to indicate that you understand how the scholarship application process works. If your nominee is successful, we will ask for his or her signature later.

Nominator's Signature _____