

I Education Justice Project

Education Justice Project Scholarship Packet Due November 15, 2021

WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in applying for an EJP scholarship. 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 essay.** 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 in Urbana-Champaign has offered courses to incarcerated students at Danville Correctional Center since 2008. In keeping with our commitment to promote higher education, we have a scholarship program. In Fall 2021, we will host the following five scholarships competitions:

- One \$1000 scholarship to a family member of an EJP student;
- One \$1000 scholarship to a family member of an IDOC or IDJJ staff person;
- One \$1000 scholarship to a family member of an incarcerated individual;
- Two \$1000 scholarships to individuals who have been released from an IDOC adult facility
- One \$1000 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 2-page COVER SHEET, completed and signed;
- 2.) 500-word essay that addresses how incarceration has affected your academic or career goals;
- 3.) Verification of enrollment in a higher education program at an accredited academic institution.

Please submit all materials by November 15, 2021 to:

Attn: Scholarships
Education Justice Project
1001 S. Wright St.
Champaign, IL 61820

For questions about EJP scholarships, please contact scholarships@educationjustice.net
For general inquiries, please contact EJP at info@educationjustice.net or 217-300-5150.

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INSTRUCTION SHEET

Eligibility Requirements

Each of our scholarship competitions has its own criteria. Please read carefully.

- **Formerly Incarcerated Individual released from an adult IDOC facility.** To be eligible, you must have been incarcerated in an adult IDOC facility. Please provide IDOC#, and dates of incarceration.
- **Formerly Incarcerated Individual released from a juvenile IDOC facility.** To be eligible, you must have been incarcerated in a juvenile IDJJ facility. Please provide IDJJ#, and dates 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 or guardian, stepparent, 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 or guardian, stepparent, child, or stepchild.
- **Family member of an incarcerated individual.** 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 or guardian, step parent, child, or stepchild.

Instructions for Applying

- Complete and sign the COVER SHEET;
- Submit a 500-word essay that addresses how incarceration has affected your academic or career goals;
- Include a verification of enrollment at an accredited academic institution.

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 late December 2021 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 Cover Sheet

- The information provided in the application is accurate and truthful.
- If awarded a scholarship you will complete a one-page essay describing how the funds were used before December 31, 2022.
- 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 an appropriate portion of the award.

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COVER SHEET

Applicant's Name

Applicant's Address

Applicant's Email

Applicant's Phone

Year in School (e.g. freshman, high school senior, graduate student)

Academic Major or Area of Study

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 to which funds would be applied. Please name the university, college, or trade school and the specific program, if applicable.

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.

By signing this COVER SHEET, you agree that any funds received will be applied towards attendance at an accredited program of higher education in 2022 and to write a 1-page letter explaining how you used the funds. This letter is due before December 31, 2022. You also agree to notify EJP immediately in the event of disenrollment.

Please note, scholarship funds are considered taxable income.

Applicant Signature _____

Date _____

Please be sure your application is complete. The application should include the completed and signed COVER SHEET, a 500 word essay, and verification of enrollment in an accredited academic program.

Please submit materials by November 15th to:

Attn: SCHOLARSHIPS
Education Justice Project
1001 S. Wright St.
Champaign, IL 61820

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