The Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation is a service organization. The Scholarship and Educational Support Program is designed to meet the needs of all applicants who wish to improve their lives through education. Anyone who lives on the beach or whose parent or guardian lives or works on Fort Myers Beach may apply.

Program Description

Scholarships and Educational Support are awarded based on a variety of factors, including community involvement, school activities, employment history, teamwork experiences, and academics.

The award is a minimum of $500. The funds are payable to students during their second semester in two or four year educational institutions. GED and trade school recipients will receive their money as determined by their school year.

The Community Foundation will determine the number of awards annually. Applications are available on the Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation website (fortmyersbeachcf.com) under the Scholarship and Educational Support tab.

The fully completed application with the student applicant’s original signature, must be submitted by the U.S. Postal Service no later than March 1, 2020 to the following address:

Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation

P.O. Box 2834

Fort Myers Beach, FL 33932

Applications are evaluated on the information provided. Therefore, incomplete applications and applications missing required documents are ineligible for consideration. All information received is considered confidential.

Applicants will be notified by email of the organization's receipt of their application.

Selection Process

The recipients will be selected on the basis of performance in three (3) key areas: community involvement, employment history and school involvement.
Each of these three (3) areas is assigned a point value. Applicants may receive values from zero to the maximum allotted points in each category. The Scholarship Committee’s decision is final.

Each applicant must provide two (2) one-page letters from non-family members. These letters should describe how the applicant has positively impacted their community, workplace and/or school.

**Applicant Essay**

Each applicant will write an essay (1,000 words maximum) that includes five (5) basic points:

1. What are your educational goals and how will these goals impact your life, family and community?
2. Specifically, how will you achieve your goals through work, internships, apprenticeships, etc.
3. Where do you see yourself in 5 and 10 years?
4. Provide a description of participation and teamwork experiences in school and/or workplace activities.
5. Receiving this scholarship will be beneficial to me because ____________.

**Academic Records**

The applicant is required to indicate cumulative GPA or cumulative numerical grades, along with a copy of the most current grade transcript or GED.

If a student is working towards their GED, an employment record is requested.

Each of the three (3) performance areas will be assigned a point value by the scholarship committee members and then summarized for a final result. Applicants with the best cumulative score will be awarded a scholarship.

**Judges**

Scholarship recipients are selected by the members of the Scholarship Committee. A Fort Myers Beach Community Foundation board member will oversee the process but will not participate in the judging.
Judging Format

The name of each applicant will be removed from all application materials before distribution to the judges for consideration. Each application will be assigned a number and judges will complete a scoring checklist. Once completed, the Scholarship Committee chair will tally all applications. The top scoring applicants will receive a scholarship.

Recipient Notification and Presentation

Scholarship recipients will be announced by April 30th. All applicants will be notified by email as to the outcome of their application.

Summary

- Anyone living and/or working in Fort Myers Beach is eligible for a scholarship from the Community Foundation.
- A blind scoring process will be used to determine who receives a scholarship.
- Community involvement, working towards a goal and employment history are factors considered along with academic scores and school records.
- Completed scholarship must be returned by U.S. Postal Service no later than March 1, 2020. NO EMAIL APPLICATIONS.
- The scholarship is designed to help with tuition, books and other educational expenses.