



2013 SPIRIT AWARD APPLICATION

NEW YORKERS FOR CHILDREN

New Yorkers For Children (NYFC) works in partnership with the Administration for Children's Services (ACS) to improve the prospects of children supported by the child welfare system and to engage New Yorkers in that effort. With a focus on young people in foster care, NYFC supports programs that promote paths to stable adulthood through education and sustainable relationships with caring adults.

Please visit our website www.newyorkersforchildren.org for more information about our programs.

SPIRIT AWARD

The NYFC Spirit Award is a **\$10,000 educational scholarship** awarded each year to an individual in foster care who is attending a 2- or 4-year college and is succeeding in college. The recipient is a young person who has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills, a commitment to his/her community, the determination and ability to overcome the barriers to academic success, and is willing to represent the experiences and voices of youth in foster care as a spokesperson for NYFC.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

You must:

- Be a highly motivated student currently or formerly in foster care in New York City
 - If formerly in foster care, must be in care on or after 16th birthday
 - Be currently enrolled in a 2- or 4- year college or university
 - Have completed at least a full year of college. **Incoming freshmen are not eligible.**
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APPLICATION DEADLINE

We must receive your completed application by **Friday, July 12, 2013**. Incomplete applications will **not** be considered.

Please mail, email, or fax your application to:

Lindsay Adamski
Youth Program Coordinator
New Yorkers For Children
450 Seventh Avenue, Suite 403
New York, NY 10123
Tel: 646.257.2935
Fax: 646.257.2931
ladamski@newyorkersforchildren.org



APPLICATION COMPLETION CHECKLIST

- Application Form
- Short Essay (typed)
- One Letter of Recommendation (attached form)
 - Please ask a teacher, social worker, educational specialist, guidance counselor, mentor, or other adult (family member or friend not allowed) in your community who is familiar with your academic background and who can speak about your character and motivation to succeed in college
- Recent College Transcript
 - Student transcript is accepted. We will ask for an official transcript if you are invited for an interview
- SAT or ACT scores (if available)

Please include ALL of the above application materials when submitting for consideration. If any of these materials are arriving after the deadline, please indicate when you will submit missing materials.



PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY WITH BLACK PEN.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION

First Name _____ Last Name _____
Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY) _____ Gender Female Male
Mailing Address _____ Apt. # _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Email _____
Emergency Contact _____ Emergency Contact Phone Number _____

IMPORTANT NOTE: Without your accurate contact information, New Yorkers For Children (NYFC) will not be able to notify you if you are selected as a recipient. Please keep a copy of this application and send updated contact information to NYFC if your address or other information changes during the application period.

2. FOSTER CARE AGENCY/WORKER INFORMATION

Currently in foster care
 Formerly in foster care Date of discharge: _____

Agency _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Name of Agency Worker _____
Agency Worker Telephone _____ Agency Worker Email _____

3. EDUCATION INFORMATION (for the 2013-2014 academic year)

Name of College/University _____
Major/Minor _____
Year Sophomore Junior Senior Current GPA _____
Last High School Attended _____
OSIS # (NYC Department of Ed ID#) _____



4. SHORT RESPONSE SECTION

1. How will the Spirit Award scholarship help further your educational goals? (1-2 paragraphs)

2. Please list some of your extracurricular activities (*sports, music and/or other school activities, etc*), community volunteer work and/or work experience. Include dates of involvement/participation. Feel free to attach your resume to this resume.

3. Please list other forms of financial assistance you currently receive.

* Please attach additional paper if necessary and note that typewritten responses are preferred. If you must handwrite any part of this application, please use only black pen and print legibly.

5. APPLICATION ESSAY

DIRECTIONS: Please type an essay (500 words maximum) stating how you have overcome adversity and obstacles in your life and how you have demonstrated leadership capacity.

6. SIGNATURES

I affirm that all statements made on this application are true. I realize that a false statement or intentional omission of any material fact may cause me to be disqualified from eligibility for this scholarship.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____



SPIRIT AWARD RECOMMENDATION FORM

The New Yorkers For Children (NYFC) Spirit Award is a **\$10,000 educational scholarship** awarded each year to an individual **currently in foster care** or **recently discharged from foster care** (must be in care on or after 16th birthday) who is currently a **sophomore, junior or senior** at a 2- or 4- year college and is succeeding in college. The recipient is a young person who has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills, a commitment to his/her community, the determination and ability to overcome the barriers to academic success, and is willing to represent the experiences and voices of youth in foster care as a spokesperson for NYFC.

Name of Applicant _____

Recommender's Name _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Relationship to Applicant _____

PLEASE TYPE RESPONSES

1. How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant? *(use additional paper if needed)*

2. Please describe the applicant's leadership skills using specific examples if possible *(use additional paper if needed)*.



3. Please provide evidence of the applicant's demonstrated perseverance in a difficult situation *(use additional paper if needed)*.

4. Since the recipient will serve as the spokesperson for New Yorkers For Children for the duration of the academic year, please comment on the applicant's experience and/or aptitude with public speaking and his/her knowledge of the opinions/sentiments of other youth in foster care.

Signature _____ Date _____

We must receive your completed recommendation by **Friday, July 12, 2013**.
Applications will **NOT** be considered without a completed Letter of Recommendation.

Please mail, email, or fax your letter of recommendation to:

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