



**ADVANCED STUDIES FUND (ASF) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
GUIDELINES & SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

Orangewood Foundation Advanced Studies Fund (ASF) Scholarships provide financial assistance to former foster youth who are college graduates seeking assistance in pursuit of advanced studies. The intention of the Advanced Studies Scholarship is to serve as supplemental funding and not to cover the full cost of tuition, books, supplies, and living expenses. Submitting an application does not guarantee funding. You can contact Orangewood Foundation staff to assist you with questions by emailing: Scholarships@orangewoodfoundation.org.

A. APPLICATION PROCESS / FUNDING PERIOD

Eligible students must complete the Advanced Studies Fund Scholarship Application each year and must provide supporting documentation. The annual funding period is aligned with our fiscal year, from July 1st to June 30th. Funding does not roll over into the next funding period. Funding for subsequent years in pursuit of advanced studies is not guaranteed with the award of initial support. Eligible students may request consideration for support from the Advanced Studies Fund in pursuit of graduate school, professional certification, or additional training required to obtain a career goal. All Advanced Studies Fund (ASF) Scholarship applications will be reviewed by the Advanced Studies Fund Committee (Orangewood Staff, Advanced Studies Fund Alumni and Orangewood Board Members). Final funding decisions will be made by June 10th for the next academic year. Applicants may be required to attend an interview at Orangewood Foundation offices in Santa Ana, CA. If travel to Orange County is not possible, a video conference call will be arranged.

Application process:

- Application submission period: **March 1st - May 1st**
- Applicants Notified of Denial or Advancement to Interviews: **Mid/Late May**
- Applicant interviews (for selected students): **Mid May – Early June**
- Applicant Notified of Acceptance or Denial: **June**

B. ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

1. For eligibility for Advanced Studies Fund scholarship consideration, student applicants:
 - a) Aged 18 through 38
 - b) Must have been declared a dependent of Orange County, CA, and placed in out-of-home care.
Or
 - c) A current association with Orangewood Foundation program services.
Cannot be a current full-time employee of Orangewood Foundation.
And
 - d) Completed a bachelor's degree or certificate and enrolling in an advanced degree.

C. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS - Your application packet must include:

New Advanced Studies Applicant (submitting with a new program or brand new applicant)

Required:

- Completed Online Advanced Studies Application
- Transcripts for all Undergraduate work (unofficial transcripts accepted) and Proof of Graduation (Copy of Degree/Certificate)
- Proof of Enrollment/Class Schedule or College Acceptance Letter. Documents must include: Student's Name, School, and Term.
 - *If acceptance has not been determined when application is submitted, acceptance needs to be confirmed by the interview date if selected to interview.*
- Signed Acknowledgement
- Signed Recipient Agreement
- Completed Budget Sheet
- One Current Letter of Recommendation
 - *This must be within 6 months of application submission and specific to this scholarship opportunity.*
- Applicant Essay
 - *Must follow the question prompts within this packet. Must also be in essay format.*
- Dependency Foster Verification Letter (From Social Services Agency)
- Current Photograph
- Attend Interview with the Advanced Studies Committee (if invited to advance to interview)

Optional:

- Resume

Continuing Advanced Studies Fund Recipient (already a recipient within same program)

Required:

- Completed Online Advanced Studies Application – Continuing Applicants
- Advanced Studies Transcripts
- Proof of Enrollment/Class Schedule. Class schedules must include: Student's Name, School, Term, Class List, # of Units Per Class
- Financial Aid Award Summary or Student Loan Summary
- Signed Acknowledgement
- Signed Recipient Agreement
- Continuing Applicant Essay
 - *Must follow the question prompts within this packet. Must also be in essay format.*

D. SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING

Please Note: Funding is approved on an individual basis, is subject to availability, and is not guaranteed. Scholarship awards are generally \$2,000 and up per year based on applicant program. Max funding is \$10,000 a year. Funding amounts may change to reflect a student's change in academic status, units completed, and/or program eligibility. Advanced Studies Fund Scholarships are not categorical and amounts will be determined based on the number of requests, the identified needs, and the funds available. Part-time students are eligible for funding.

The application is located here:

<https://orangewoodfoundation.org/programs/advanced-studies-fund/>

New Applicant (or New Program) Essay

Essay must address the below questions.

Essay must be in the following format: double spaced, 12pt black font, 1-2 pages in length.

Essay Questions

- Why do you want to study/pursue your major?
 - What are your academic and/or career goals?
 - How will this scholarship help you?
 - What are your greatest accomplishments?
 - What are some extracurricular activities that you enjoy?
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Continuing Applicant Essay

Essay must address the below questions.

Essay must be in the following format: double spaced, 12pt black font, 1-2 pages in length.

Essay Questions

- What kind of successes have you had in the past year?
- What have you learned about yourself this past year?
- How did the scholarship support you last year? How can it assist you this year?
- What are your greatest accomplishments?
- What are some extracurricular activities that you enjoy?

Advanced Studies Scholarship – Budget Sheet (NEW APPLICANTS)

Include income and expenses for any areas that apply to you or write N/A if not applicable.

Income

Net Monthly Income from employment (after taxes) \$ _____

Other Source(s) of Income*, please list _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

*For example, financial aid, other grants/scholarships, family, other organization support, SSI/Soc. Security.

Total Monthly Income = \$ _____

Current Student Loan Debt \$ _____ Total Debt: _____

Expenses

Rent: *Check one:* Apartment House Dorm Other \$ _____

Utilities:

• Electricity \$ _____

• Gas \$ _____

• Water \$ _____

• Telephone \$ _____

Food/Groceries: \$ _____

Health Services/Insurance: \$ _____

Check if applicable: Medical Dental Vision

Transportation:

• Car Payment \$ _____

• Car Insurance \$ _____

• Gasoline \$ _____

• Bus Pass/Metro Line Fare \$ _____

Debt Expense: \$ _____

Miscellaneous living expenses*, please list: _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

_____ \$ _____

*For example: children/baby items, sibling support, pets, clothing, other bills, etc.

Total Monthly Expenses = \$ _____



Advanced Studies Fund Acknowledgement

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY AND USE BLACK INK

By signing this Scholarship Recipient Acknowledgement form, you consent to allow Orangewood Foundation staff and board members to review and discuss any information contained in your educational records and Advanced Studies Fund application as related to participation in the Advanced Studies Fund Scholarship Program. Your consent to release personal information begins at the time of application to Orangewood Foundation Advanced Studies Fund Program. The release remains in effect for the entire time you are receiving assistance from the Orangewood Foundation and the Advanced Studies Fund Scholarship Program.

During the application process, and throughout the school year, in order to maintain eligibility, we may also need to request/relay additional educational information related to your application or participation in the program (i.e.: enrollment status, transcript(s)/grades, class schedules). Once signed, this Scholarship Recipient Acknowledgement permits us to discuss your personal educational history and academic status with Orangewood Foundation staff and board members, university/college representatives, as well as other supporters familiar with your educational history. In all cases, your information is handled with strict confidentiality and will be used only for the purposes of serving you in your pursuit of higher education.

CERTIFICATION:

By marking this box, I understand that information related to my application to the Orangewood Foundation Advanced Studies Fund Program, my educational records, and academic status may be discussed with Orangewood Foundation staff and board members, college/university and vocational school staff, and other relevant professional service providers familiar with my educational history with my FULL CONSENT. I understand that this release will remain in effect the entire time period during which I am receiving funding from the Orangewood Foundation Advanced Studies Fund. I understand that this release exempts Orangewood Foundation staff from adhering to confidentiality statements I may have previously signed regarding my educational records. I also understand that I may request in writing that this Scholarship Recipient Acknowledgement no longer be held as valid and my future consent to release information can be retracted by me at any time, however, such actions may impact scholarship funding. I certify that all of the information reported by me on this form is true and accurate.

Student's Name (printed)

Today's Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Date of Birth



Advanced Studies Fund Recipient Agreement

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY AND USE BLACK INK

I, the undersigned student, accept the Orangewood Foundations Advanced Studies Fund (ASF) Scholarship subject to the term set forth in this agreement.

1. I am grateful for this opportunity and I will write a thank you note to the donors within 30 days of being notified of the awarded scholarship.
2. I will keep Orangewood Foundation informed of my current mailing address, email address, and phone number.
3. If I have any needs arise, I will let Orangewood Foundation know as soon as possible
4. I will complete a mid-year update promptly once receiving it, and I understand it is required to receive the second disbursement.
5. I will have quarterly check-ins with the Scholarship Coordinator.
6. I will attend ASF functions when possible.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Full Name: _____