



Redwood Empire Foster Parent Association

Scholarship/Special Needs Request Guidelines

The scholarship application is available on www.refpa.org. Either the Resource Parent or Social Worker can submit the application. Scholarship requests will be presented on the first Monday of each month at the REFPA Board Meeting.

Sonoma County foster youth with an open CPS case, ages newborn to 18 (still in High School), who are in out-of-home care are eligible for assistance up to \$500.00 each calendar year.

Section A:

Awards up to \$500 a year will be considered for items which may include, but are not limited to:

- Health and Fitness
- Sports: shoes, uniform, and costs associated with sports (ie: football, baseball, martial arts, dance, swim)
- School Activities: field trips and calculators
- Extracurricular Activities
- Music: instrument and lessons
- Camps: cheerleading, football, summer camp/programs

Upon approval, these scholarships will be paid directly to the service provider or as a reimbursement to the Resource Parent when receipts are provided. Payee must be 18 or older.

Scholarship chairperson will investigate alternative methods to fill requests when possible.

Section B:

Foster youth graduating from High School are entitled to an additional scholarship of no more than \$400 to cover one-time expenses such as prom clothing, shoes, pictures, yearbook, class ring, etc. This one-time only scholarship award is in addition to a scholarship from Section A. These scholarships can be paid directly to the Resource Parent.

Section C:

For foster youth, ages 0-21, the REFPA will consider on a case by case basis, special requests up to \$1,000.

Requirements:

- Please write a letter stating the exact need and how the child will benefit, including the cost/expense, and what other resources have been exhausted. Have the caregiver, child as well as the social worker sign the letter.
- The Scholarship Chair will need to verify receipts.

Examples:

A child is eligible to compete in an out of town Spelling Bee and needs two nights of lodging in order to compete.

A child is fundraising for a school field trip and needs REFPA to match their fundraising in order to participate. It's a field trip in a child's favorite subject and area of interest.

Updated: 3/24