

Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program

2017-2018 Application Packet

Please return completed and signed application form, essay, letters of support, and recommendation forms to Dr. Charleyse S. Pratt, Office of Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement, Cleveland State University, 2121 Euclid Avenue, Rhodes Tower 1254, Cleveland, Ohio 44115 by 5:00 PM on or before March 3, 2017. For additional information, email Dr. Charleyse S. Pratt, c.s.pratt@csuohio.edu or telephone – 216-687-9394.

Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program Program and Scholarship Overview

Program Purpose

The Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program provides an opportunity for youth who have experienced foster care to pursue an undergraduate degree. The Program promotes academic success and degree completion through a continuous system of support and resources. Scholars receive professional guidance, educational support, and peer mentoring as important components of the program structure. The goal is to assure successful planning and preparation for college, followed by structured academic coaching to make a smooth transition to university life and academic success.

Applications for 2017 program activities will be accepted until March 3, 2017.

Program Overview

The program is customized to address the complicated needs for economic security, academic coaching and emotional support required for youth aging out of foster care with a comprehensive system of support. Participation in the CSU Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program offers the benefit of a world-class education with greater economic stability, personal and professional development, and skills that contribute to academic success and degree completion.

Program Features

- ❖ An intensive residential **Summer Transition to College Workshop (STCW)** to prepare for University life. *Scholars will live on campus and quickly make new friends as they attend workshops and classes to develop essential study skills and prepare for a smooth transition to university life and academic success.*
- ❖ Funding for tuition, books, and fees
- ❖ Campus Housing – year-round
- ❖ Structured system of academic advising and learning support services
- ❖ On-campus employment and access to Career Services
- ❖ Professional mentoring, peer assistants, tutoring and success coaches

Eligibility to apply for the program and scholarship

Participation in the Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program is voluntary.

- ❖ Students in foster care who are high school seniors, at least 17 years old and younger than 20 years old
- ❖ Students who will age out of foster care by the date of high school graduation or by the time they begin their 2017 college enrollment
- ❖ Students must apply to the Program by March 3, 2017 and already be admitted to CSU to qualify
- ❖ Must be a legal resident of Ohio and eligible for in-state tuition rates

Peer Assistance

Recipients of the CSU Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program Scholarship will be matched with CSU students who will serve as peer assistants, offering encouragement and support for a smooth transition and academic success. In addition, a small group of volunteer Professional Mentors will support students as they transition to university life and persist to degree completion.

Program Oversight

The Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program is administered by the CSU Office of Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement – Division of University Engagement, under the direction of the Assistant Vice President, Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement.

Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program Scholarship Selection Process

Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program On-line application for 2017-2018 is now available on the CSU Website. Applicants must apply for admission and already be admitted to Cleveland State University. Program applications must be received no later than March 3, 2017.

Applications for participation in the Sullivan-Deckard Scholarship Program will be reviewed by a selection committee that includes CSU staff, faculty and community collaborators convened by the Assistant Vice President, Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement. The process will follow these steps:

1. Applicants must submit completed Program Scholarship application for participation in the Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program by the cut-off date – March 3, 2017. Completed application packet must include:
 - a. Completed application form and supporting documentation including transcript and ACT scores
 - b. Personal Interest Essay (up to 1000 words)
 - c. Two written recommendations in support for applicant’s participation and scholarship award.
2. Finalists must successfully complete an in-person interview conducted by a panel of interviewers selected by the Assistant Vice President, Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement. Interviews will be conducted in March 2017 for summer 2017 enrollment.
3. Up to 10 students will be selected to receive a Sullivan-Deckard Scholarship to attend CSU beginning in the summer 2017 session. Final selection of program participants will reflect a strong, mature, and diverse cohort of participants.
4. Scholarship recipients automatically become part of the Sullivan-Deckard Scholarship Opportunity Program and will be required to comply with all eligibility requirements. Program participants will be required to attend various “on-campus” events and activities, receive guidance, and make a successful transition to college life.
5. The scholarship is renewable each semester provided that the Scholar remains in good academic standing, is in full compliance with the Student Conduct Code, and successfully completes assigned projects, coursework and degree requirements.
6. Grades and participation in Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program activities, along with overall academic performance, will be reviewed regularly throughout each semester, at the mid-term, and at the conclusion of every semester. Scholars must meet these conditions and the University’s standards for academic progress and behavior, including but not limited to the CSU Student Conduct Code, CSU harassment, discrimination and Title IX policies. The scholarship may be renewed at the end of each semester.

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Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program Scholarship Requirements

By accepting the Sullivan-Deckard Scholarship, applicants understand that in addition to all rules and expectations that apply to Cleveland State University students, recipients must also adhere to the following in order to remain eligible to receive the Sullivan-Deckard Scholarship.

Scholarship recipients must:

- Participate in all scheduled Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program activities, events and programs which include: regular meetings with the Program Director; daily study-table sessions; Program related seminars, workshop presentations and leadership development activities, as directed by the Program Director. Failure to participate in required activities may compromise eligibility for continuation of the scholarship.
- Maintain an overall 2.5 Grade Point Average, or higher, and maintain satisfactory academic progress to continue to be eligible to receive the Sullivan-Deckard Scholarship. Scholars must adhere to standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) as defined by Cleveland State University.
- Maintain an appropriate number of credit hours (minimum 12 hours-maximum 15 hours) while enrolled at CSU each Fall and Spring semester and no more than 6 credit hours, during the summer sessions, with approval of the Program Director.
- Attend all classes according to the requirements of the instructor(s) and complete all projects, academic course work, duties and assignments required to earn a passing grade and meet requirements for satisfactory academic progress and graduation. **If, at any time, the semester academic performance results in academic probation (below 2.0 GPA) a Scholar will no longer be eligible to receive the scholarship award, permanently.**
- Meet with an Academic Advisor and review the academic graduation plan, degree audit, and course schedule each semester.
- Live in CSU student residence halls throughout the period of enrollment at CSU. If a Scholar chooses to live off campus or is suspended from the residence hall by Residence Life or, involved in any other violation of the CSU Student Conduct Code, or Title IX which results in suspension from the residence hall, then the scholarship will be forfeited, permanently.
- Accept work study through financial aid, on campus, for a minimum of 10-12 hours per week each semester.
- Refrain from obtaining employment off campus while at CSU and a Sullivan-Deckard Scholarship recipient.
- Scholars may NOT own a vehicle or have a vehicle on campus during the freshman year.
- Scholars may NOT participate in pledging for a sorority or fraternity during the freshman year or, if NOT in good academic standing.

Scholarship recipients assume responsibility for taking steps necessary to ensure their success.

Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program Scholarship Application

Date _____

Personal information

Last Name:	First Name:
Local Address: <i>Number, street, apartment</i>	City: Zip Code:
Email:	Cell Phone:
Place of Birth:	Date of Birth: / /

Academic information

School you are attending now:	
Current Grade:	Grade Point Average (GPA):
Expected Graduation Date:	Favorite Subject:
Community or other activities:	

Personal Interests: Please attach a personal essay that addresses all of the questions and statements below in a total of up to 1000 words.

1. **High School Experience:** Briefly describe your recent educational experience including involvement in school. What were your most difficult challenges? How did you address these challenges? List specific school activities you were involved in, sports, and organizations. Describe your motivation for participation in these.
2. **Future Goals:** Describe your future goals including college, career aspirations, and other things you hope to achieve in the next 3-5 years. Explain how you think a college education and a degree will help you achieve these goals.
3. **Maturity and Character:** Explain why you are a good candidate to participate in the Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program. What do you consider to be your strengths? What personal values, talents and gifts do you feel you have that will help you to succeed?
4. **Leadership and Citizenship:** Describe ways you have demonstrated good citizenship and leadership in your school and community?
5. **Additional Comments:** Include anything else you would like the selection committee to know about you for this application.

Completed applications must include the essay plus two written recommendations as support for your participation. One recommendation should be from a school teacher or agency representative. The second recommendation should be completed by another responsible adult of your choice. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

My signature below certifies that the information I have provided, on and attached to this application, is true and correct. I understand that if, at any time, any of the information provided is found to be false, any scholarship funds I have received based on this information will be rescinded possibly creating a balance due to Cleveland State University that I will be responsible for paying. In addition, I do hereby consent to the release of information concerning my academic and financial status to Cleveland State University Foundation, scholarship donors and the Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program Selection Committee.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program
Recommendation Form

Date: _____

Student Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Please Print

School currently attending and School District: _____
Please Print

I support the application of _____ for the Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program.

Name of individual completing the recommendation form: _____

Relationship to the student applicant: _____

How long have you known the student applicant? _____

What do you consider to be this student's two greatest strengths?

1.

2.

What other attributes does this student possess that make you want to recommend her/him?

Additional Comments:

Signature of individual making recommendation: _____

Title: _____ Contact information: _____

Please return form to: Director-Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program - Office of Inclusion and Multicultural Engagement Cleveland State University – 2121 Euclid Avenue, Rhodes Tower 1254 - Cleveland, Ohio 44115 - Telephone: 216-687-9394.

Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program
Precollege Scholarship Academic Release Form

Applicants must obtain a copy of school transcript(s) or report card(s) for the full year of their last completed grade and submit it along with this Academic Release Form.

To be completed by guardian or legal agent:

I, _____, give my permission to _____
(Guardian/Legal agent's name) *(Name of school releasing records)*

and authorize the release of the academic records of _____ to be used in the
(Applicant's name)
selection process of the Cleveland State University, Sullivan-Deckard Scholars Opportunity Program application for program participation and scholarship competition. I confirm that at the time this application is being submitted, the applicant is currently in 12th grade and positioned to graduate no later than May 2017.

I understand that the transcript and the entire nomination packet will become the property of Cleveland State University and will not be returned.

Signature of Student Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of guardian or legal agent: _____ Date: _____

Title _____ Telephone: _____
Please Print

Address or Agency: _____

Program and Scholarship Application Deadline: March 3, 2017. The competitive selection process requires completed application, personal statement, and personal interview. Call 216-687-9394 or email c.s.pratt@csuohio.edu.