

Prairie State College Foundation

Spring, Summer-2012 Scholarship Application

Priority Deadlines:

(applications accepted until all funds have been awarded)

Spring 2012: December 5, 2011

Summer 2012: April 20, 2012

Applying for a PSC Foundation Scholarship:

The PSC Foundation believes each student must assume some portion of educational costs; therefore, **most awards are for partial costs.** This permits assistance to the maximum number of PSC students.

- 1) **Student must be registered for PSC college credit classes.**
(Non-credit courses are not eligible)
 - Foundation awards are not "first money" to hold a class.
 - Students must have some means to pay their balance (FACTS payment plan, job, loan, etc.).
- 2) **Every scholarship applicant *must complete the FAFSA process.***
 - PSCF assists those who are not eligible for federal or state aid, but *every applicant must have filed FAFSA.*
- 3) **Return completed application to Financial Aid Dept. (Room 1350)**
 - Please complete all information shown in order to be considered for all available awards.
 - Your scholarship application is not complete until the EFC has been determined using information from the FAFSA/SAR.
 - Failure to complete necessary information will disqualify your application.

No additional letters of recommendation will be considered. Please do not include.

Helping to bring educational opportunities to the
Prairie State College student community.

Prairie State College Foundation - Scholarship Application Form

You must file FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and have a SAR (Student Aid Report) on file with the PSC Financial Aid Department to be considered for a PSC Foundation scholarship, **and be enrolled in a PSC degree or certificate program.**

- PSC Foundation scholarships assist in-district students, students enrolled under a cooperative agreement, and Lake County, Indiana residents. **Out-of-district students (who pay three times the in-district tuition rate) are not eligible.**
- No prior balances are eligible** for Foundation assistance.
- Consideration is not immediate.**
 - Scholarships may not be determined before the “pay or be dropped” dates.
 - Applicants are advised to make their payments on schedule.
 - Financial Aid must verify grades, hours, and whether FAFSA was completed.
- If registered hours are reduced, a scholarship award will be reduced proportionately.**
- Guest students are not eligible**, due to limited funds.
 - Donors’ intent is to assist PSC students, enrolled in a PSC degree or certificate program, who cannot afford community college costs.
- No funds are awarded for transportation or personal expenses, unlike Pell grants.**
 - Foundation awards are for tuition, fees, and textbooks.
- Awards are by electronic credit to the student’s PSC account.
- No cash** is awarded.
- All other forms of assistance** (Pell, MAP, other scholarship awards, etc.) **are applied to a PSC student account before a PSC Foundation Scholarship award.** If other assistance fully covers your costs, you are not eligible for a PSC Foundation scholarship or a refund of costs paid by another entity.
- No refunds are given for unused amounts** (if an award exceeds student’s out-of-pocket costs). Each student must assume some portion of educational costs.
- Funds are not transferrable to any other institution.**
- Only one Foundation-funded scholarship award per term** (*Returning Students, Books for Scholars, New Beginnings, Athletic Scholarship, Ford Heights Scholar*).
 - Students will be considered for all donor-funded awards (such as *Suburban Service League, NCJW, Kiwanis*, etc.) where they meet donor criteria.
- Scholarships are **awarded for the semester in which enrolled** and do not carry over.
- The number of **available scholarships** and participating donors **will vary each year**, pending funds available.
- PSC Foundation scholarships are awarded on a financial need basis, and according to scholarship donors’ criteria, which vary by award. **Many donors wish to assist those who do not qualify for federal or state funding.** These scholarship awards do not exclude applicants whose income might disqualify them from receiving Pell or MAP. However, **you cannot receive a PSC Foundation scholarship if you are fully funded** through any combination of other assistance.
- Auditions** (music, theatre, speech) or portfolio (art, photography, writing) may be required for some awards, **depending upon donor criteria.**
- Scholarship recipients are **expected to participate as volunteers** at Foundation events or for other campus events.
- You agree that Prairie State College and the PSC Foundation may use your name and academic information in news releases or promotional publications regarding these awards if you are selected to receive an award.

Awards will be made until funds are expended, to students who meet donors' criteria. Each student who follows these guidelines will be considered for available scholarships.

Do Not Return this Page

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Check one application term: Spring 12 Summer 12

Application Form (print neatly and complete all sections)

Name _____

PSC student ID number _____ e-mail _____

Phone number (_____) _____ cell phone number (_____) _____

Street address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Check one: In District Yes No

If not in-district resident, why are you attending PSC? _____

_____ Check

one:

I attended _____ high school in (town) _____

(state) _____ and graduated in _____ (yr) (If not in USA, in _____)

I was awarded a GED in _____ (yr) Score _____

My major at PSC is _____ My current GPA is _____

If Dental Hygiene or Nursing, have you been formally accepted into the program? Yes No

If new to PSC, previous GPA _____ from H.S. or College (name of school; location)

I plan to earn Degree Certificate OR transfer credits to _____

My anticipated PSC graduation date is _____

I already have a Bachelor's Degree in _____ Date _____

I am returning to PSC because _____

Anticipated hours of enrollment in 2012:

SP12 _____ SU12 _____

List Financial Aid, scholarships, grants, employer tuition assistance, and other financial assistance you expect to receive in 2011-12:

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List community clubs, honors, activities, volunteer work, charities, and/or other educational programs you have pursued since high school: _____

List any PSC Foundation events when you volunteered: _____

If you did not volunteer when requested, why? _____

Tell us about your household: (Complete only 1 section)

I am:

Independent
(I do not live with parents)
(I do not receive parental help)
Your earnings? _____

Household earnings (self, spouse)?

Do you have dependent children?

Yes # _____ No

Dependent (My parent/s claim me on
income tax)

Parents' earnings? _____

Will family contribute Yes No

If not, why not? _____

Do you have dependent children?

Yes # _____ No

Any employer tuition reimbursement?

Yes No

Explain: When are you reimbursed? _____

Is there a requirement to work for employer for (how many) years? _____

Any employer tuition reimbursement?

Yes No

Additional Considerations

Your latest FAFSA may not reflect your current financial situation. Please explain, in your essay, if any of the following apply to you:

recent job loss in household

single parent

past academic performance affecting GPA

other

health related

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Some donors have specific eligibility criteria which must be met. If you wish to be considered, please supply the following information:

Union membership: Local _____, (name of union) _____

Myself

Member of Immediate Family (give name & employer) _____

Optional: Some donors have designated scholarships for specific groups. If you wish to be considered, please provide the following information. (This information does not affect your eligibility for other scholarships.)

Female Native American Other: _____
 Male U.S. Citizen: Yes No
 African American Veteran: Yes No
 Asian or Pacific Islander
 Latino/a

Explain disability (if any): _____

Did your parent(s) graduate from college? Yes No

Are you the first person in your family to attend college? Yes No

Are you the first person in your family to receive a college degree? Yes No

Auditions may be required for some awards.

A portfolio may be required for some awards.

I hereby grant Prairie State College the right to use application/academic information in news releases and promotional publications should I be selected to receive this award.

I understand that failure to provide complete and accurate information will disqualify my application from consideration.

Student's signature _____ Date _____

Student: Return this application (pages 1-3, plus essay) to Carissa Davis in the Financial Aid and Veterans Affairs Office (Room 1350, 202 S. Halsted St., Chicago Heights 60411) along with your student aid report. (If you already have a 2010-11 report on file, another copy is not necessary.)

Priority Deadlines(until all funds awarded): December 5 for SP12, April 20 for SU12

Applications after these deadlines will be considered only if funds are still available.

Do not submit additional reference letters. Only the completed application and single-page essay will be considered.

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Essay Questions

Please answer each question in one paragraph. Your entire written statement cannot exceed one typed page. Double space, use clear font, no smaller than 10 point (for legibility). Do not repeat a past essay. Although your situation may not have changed, your essay must be a new statement (not recycled from a previous application).

Answer these questions:

- 1) **Why do you have financial need?** (Explain why you cannot afford educational costs; describe unusual or unexpected expenses; give us a snapshot of your household's employment and who lives with you.)
- 2) **What are your career goals?** (What will you do when you leave PSC? What is your career path?)
- 3) For those who have a Bachelor's Degree already: Why are you at PSC now?

Please give your written answers as much attention as your most important graded assignment.

- Use spell-check.
- Ask someone whose opinion you value to review your writing.
- If writing is a weakness, please make an appointment with the Student Success Center for assistance.

Some suggestions for your essay:

- Do you capture reader attention?
- Is your verb tense consistent?
- Is your essay grammatically correct and accurately punctuated?
- Are you clear and coherent?
- Does this statement present you as you wish others to see you?
- Did another person review your work for possible mistakes (spelling, grammar, form)?
- If you read 200 essays, would your essay be remembered?
- Let your info sit for a few days, then go back and reread. Did you follow directions, write clear answers that respond to the questions, and did you put your best foot forward?

Check your application again:

- Complete? No information missing?
- Legible? Can we read your info?
- Does it sound right when you read it aloud?
- Did you run spell-check?
- Did you ask someone else to check your writing?

Awards are made to students whose applications demonstrate merit and possibility. Please be realistic in your self-reflection and prepare conscientiously.

Submit Pages 1-3 and Essay to Financial Aid