



## Blue River Community Foundation Scholarship Program

### PURPOSE

Blue River Community Foundation (BRCF) currently administers over 95 scholarship funds which provide financial support to students. Thanks to the generous donors who establish these funds, students have a local resource to help meet the costs of pursuing post-secondary education credentials.

### IMPACT



**3,305 Scholarships**



**1,828 Students**



**\$7.6 Million Awarded**

\*Information is from 1994 through 2023. Scholarship total includes Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship which is made possible through Lilly Endowment Inc. and administered by Independent Colleges of Indiana.

### DETAILS

BRCF offers these scholarship opportunities for students each year:

- **Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship**  
BRCF is proud to partner with Lilly Endowment Inc. to award this prestigious scholarship each year to one Shelby County student graduating from high school.
- **BRCF Scholarships:**  
**Over 175 Scholarships: 1 Application**  
This opportunity consists of scholarship funds established by generous donors with the intent to provide financial support to students pursuing post-secondary education. Over 150 students receive an award annually.

BRCF scholarships are awarded to:

- **Current High School Seniors**
- **Current College Students**
- **\* Nontraditional Students**

\*Individuals returning to school or starting for the first time  
**Please note:** applicants can be pursuing any type of secondary education credential e.g. certification or accreditation in a vocational or technical program, associate and bachelor degrees, graduate or professional program degrees

**Learn More**



**Over \$425,000  
awarded annually**



plan


prepare

participate

**APPLY**

## FRESHMAN

- Enroll in a rigorous course track and take classes that challenge you; discuss options that best fit your needs with your school counselor
- Focus on academic performance; the first six semesters of high school make a difference
- Research career options and post-secondary education opportunities; start a list of institutions you want to visit
- Participate in school and/or community-based activities; take on leadership roles when possible
- Consider participating in academic enrichment programs, workshops, and camps that allow you to explore possible career paths and gain experience
- Start a list of extracurricular activities, work experience, volunteer activities/hours, and awards/honors to build your high school resume

 Although these items are listed under freshman activities, they should continue through all four years.

## SOPHOMORE

- Attend career and college informational events when possible; take advantage of College Go Week
- Prepare for standardized testing (PSAT, SAT/ACT) that may pertain to you in 11<sup>th</sup> grade
- Explore the costs associated with a post-secondary education
- Learn the difference between grants, loans, and scholarships
- Plan to engage in a summer activity that will help build areas of your high school resume that may be lacking (e.g. job, volunteer experience, internship, a club, a sport, academic program, music camp, etc.)

## JUNIOR

- Attend Shelby County College Fair in September  
*\*Open to all Shelby County students; held at Shelbyville High School*
- Obtain & review BRCF scholarship resource guide  
*\*See your school counselor for a copy or visit blueriverfoundation.com for a digital version*
- Register for the SAT, ACT, or both; scores are required from at least one of these standardized tests to apply for BRCF administered scholarships
- Attend BRCF scholarship information sessions at your school in the spring
- Understand BRCF's scholarship opportunities and determine which application cycle (as listed below) is best for you; know the timeline and what to expect
- Think about people you should ask to serve as recommenders for the application process; one school affiliation and one personal recommendation must be provided
- Attend BRCF Scholarship Workshop** in June or July; covers essay writing, interviewing tips, and other application suggestions as well as information from BRCF Scholar Alumni

## SENIOR

- APPLY - Summer Cyle:** (7/1 - 9/1)  
**or Winter Cycle:** (11/1 - 1/15)  
**Opportunities:**
  - **Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship**  
*\*LECS applicants do NOT have to reapply to be considered for BRCF administered scholarships*
  - **BRCF Scholarships**  
Over 175 scholarships: 1 Application
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, **FAFSA**<sup>®</sup>, after October 1<sup>st</sup> and before the January 15<sup>th</sup> General Scholarship deadline  
*\*The FAFSA must be completed as part of BRCF's scholarship application process*




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