

The Cooke Scholarships

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation scholarships are designed to support high-performing students with financial need starting as early as middle school, going through high school, college, and beyond. Up to 250 new Cooke Scholars are selected each year throughout the country, and scholars come from every state with no restriction on background, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or citizenship status.

There is no nomination process, although each of the scholarships has rigorous eligibility criteria, including minimum GPAs and, in some cases, minimum standardized test scores. Financial eligibility for all three scholarship programs require a student's family income generally not exceed \$95,000 per year. The average family income of Cooke Scholars is \$35,000 a year and many of Cooke Scholars are eligible to receive Pell Grants.

In addition to tuition, Cooke Scholars receive:

- Academic advising
- Access to internship stipends
- Opportunities to study abroad
- Networking with alumni and community of scholars

There are three entry points to apply for a Cooke Scholarship:

1. Cooke College Scholarship Program.

This scholarship is available to 12th graders. *We are accepting applications now through November 3, 2015.*

The Cooke College Scholarship Program is an undergraduate scholarship program available to high-achieving high school seniors with financial need who seek to attend the nation's best four-year colleges and universities. Scholars receive up to \$40,000 a year to cover tuition, living expenses, books and other fees.

2. Cooke Community College Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship.

The scholarship is available to community college students. *We are accepting applications now through December 3, 2015.*

The Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship makes it possible for the nation's top community college students to complete their bachelor's degrees by transferring to a four-year college or university. Scholars receive up to \$40,000 a year to cover tuition, living expenses, books and other fees, making it the largest private scholarship for two-year and community college transfer students in the country.

3. Cooke Young Scholars Scholarship.

The Cooke Young Scholars Scholarship is available to 7th graders. The application period runs from January to April 2016.

The largest pre-college scholarship available, the scholarship attempts to identify the top middle school students in the country. Cooke Young Scholars receive intensive personalized academic and college counseling, and financial resources to participate in high-quality academic and extracurricular opportunities in their local community, on college campuses, and around the globe. Scholars, depending on need, have received computers, musical instruction and instruments, summer enrichment opportunities, foreign travel, and individualized tutorials both online and in person. Students also have a pathway to the Cooke College Scholarship, which as described above, awards up to \$40,000 a year for up to four years of undergraduate study.

Teachers, counselors and principals are encouraged to visit www.jkcf.org/outreach to find more information about the scholarships. The Cooke Foundation encourages school systems to share information about the scholarship with their students and families. Educators are also encouraged to contact the foundation's Manager of Outreach Nara Lee by phone (571-209-1792) or email (nlee@jkcf.org) for further guidance about identifying candidates.

Students and families can learn more by visiting www.jkcf.org/scholarships.