

April 11, 2018

Dear Family,

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you and your college age child to apply for a scholarship from the Arms Wide Adoption Services (formerly Spaulding for Children) Holland Scholarship Endowment Fund. Attached are the guidelines and the application form. All applications are due no later than April 25, 2018.

As many of you know, most children adopted or placed in foster care in Texas are eligible for a full tuition or fee waiver at any Texas state funded college, junior college or trade school. While eligibility for the Arms Wide Adoption Services scholarship program is still limited to those students who were adopted or are in foster care through Arms Wide/Spaulding for Children's or Christian Child Help Foundation's special needs program, it is also limited to those students who are seeking higher education who are not eligible for the state program at a private or out-of-state college, or university, or trade school. The aim of the scholarship is to assist those adopted/foster care children who will not be able to participate in the state welfare program. Guidelines for the scholarship are attached.

If you have a child or children who meet the guidelines of the scholarship for the school year beginning fall of 2018 and are in need of scholarship assistance, please take a few minutes to read the enclosed scholarship guidelines. If you have any questions, please call Shelly Webster at (713) 681-6991 x161 during regular business hours. The Scholarship Committee will notify all applicants of their decision by May 4, 2018.

Thank you for your interest and we look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Vikki Finley  
President and CEO

**ARMS WIDE ADOPTION SERVICES  
DAVID AND JACQUE HOLLAND SCHOLARSHIP  
GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS**

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose is to financially assist applicants who are presently in foster care through Spaulding for Children dba Arms Wide Adoption Services, applicants who were adopted through Christian Child Help Foundation's special needs adoption program, or through Spaulding for Children/Arms Wide Adoption Service's special needs adoption program who are seeking higher education (undergraduate or graduate) at a college, university, or trade school. In addition, the purpose is to financially assist applicants who do not qualify for state tuition and fee waiver with tuition at state and private schools, as well as applicants from out-of-state who meet the above criteria.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

1. An applicant adopted or in foster care placement through Spaulding for Children/Arms Wide Adoption Service's or Christian Child Help Foundation's special needs adoption program.
2. A student who has applied to or is currently enrolled in an accredited college, university, or trade school. If currently enrolled in a college or university, student must maintain a minimum 2.0 grade point average and be working towards a certification, or bachelor's or higher degree.
3. A student who has completed high school with a minimum 2.0 grade point average or achieved a G.E.D.
4. The State of Texas has established eligibility for state tuition and fee waivers. Currently, only students who were adopted out of the foster care system in the State of Texas, received adoption assistance (subsidy) **and Medical assistance (Medicaid)** or students in foster care, qualify for the state tuition and fee waiver. Students who do not meet the criteria for state tuition and fee waiver, or who are enrolled or plan to enroll in a private or out-of-state college or university and meet all other eligibility requirements may apply for the scholarship. Students who meet the tuition waiver requirements and who are planning to attend a state supported higher education institution do not qualify for this scholarship.
5. An applicant who has demonstrated the ability to be successful in the program that they have chosen.
6. An applicant who is willing to be an Ambassador for special needs children.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Fill out application completely (typed if possible).

1. Submit most recent official transcript(s) from all colleges, universities and high schools attended.
2. Submit at least three completed recommendations from **non-family** members, including a minimum of two from teachers who have knowledge of student's ability. If necessary, community contacts may be substituted for teacher's recommendations.
3. Submit at least one completed recommendation from a parent or guardian.
4. Attend a personal interview with the selection committee, if needed.
5. A scholarship recipient may be eligible for up to two years of scholarship funding per application. Scholarship payments will be disbursed on a term-to-term basis, subject to the student maintaining a minimum 2.0 grade point average. Documentation of performance and enrollment must be provided following the completion of each term in order for the scholarship to be continued. The amount of the scholarship awarded should be reasonable when compared with similar tuition and fee schedules at the University of Houston.
6. Mail application, **due by April 25, 2018** to:

**Vikki Finley, President and CEO  
Arms Wide Adoption Services  
6925 Portwest Drive, Suite 110  
Houston, Texas 77024  
Email: vfinley@armswide.org**

7. For questions, please contact Shelly Webster at (713) 681-6991 x161

**FUNDS AVAILABILITY:**

Arms Wide Adoption Services' ability to offer a scholarship is contingent upon sufficient investment earnings from the scholarship endowment. Applicants will be notified if earnings are not sufficient to award any scholarships this year.

**ARMS WIDE ADOPTION SERVICES**  
**(formerly Spaulding for Children)**  
**DAVID AND JACQUE HOLLAND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**  
**Due April 25, 2018**

**SECTION I. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

1. Name: Mr. Ms. Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_  
(circle one) Last First MI

2. Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

3. Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible Applicant is: (Must check one)  
4. Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  Presently in Foster Care  
 Was adopted through SFC/AWAS in \_\_\_\_\_ (yr)  
 Was adopted through CCHF in \_\_\_\_\_ (yr)

5. Parent/Guardian Information:  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Home  
(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Work

**SECTION II. EDUCATION**

1. If you are in high school, please indicate the college or university to which you have applied.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Accepted? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

2. College or University you are currently attending or expect to attend:  
\_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Date entered or expected to enter: \_\_\_\_\_

Full or part-time: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Degree (college only): \_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Current GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

3. High schools or colleges previously attended:

<u>Dates</u>		<u>School</u>	<u>Graduate?</u>
<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>		
/ /	/ /	_____	_____
/ /	/ /	_____	_____
/ /	/ /	_____	_____
/ /	/ /	_____	_____
/ /	/ /	_____	_____

**SECTION III. ESTIMATED ANNUAL SCHOOL EXPENSES**

1. Tuition and Fees	\$ _____
2. Books and Materials	\$ _____
3. Room and Board	\$ _____
4. Lunches and travel for commuting students	\$ _____
5. Personal and recreation	\$ _____
6. Other	\$ _____
7. Total	\$ _____

**SECTION IV. CURRENT AND FUTURE PLANS**

1. Attach a short summary explaining your education/career plans. Include why you want to be considered for the Holland Scholarship.

**SECTION V. APPLICANT'S STATEMENT**

In submitting this application, I hereby certify that:

- A. I am or will be an undergraduate student or graduating high school senior who meets the eligibility requirements described in the instructions.
- B. I am applying for this scholarship for the purpose of beginning or continuing my college studies.
- C. I will use the proceeds of any scholarship received from or through Arms Wide Adoption Services for the payment of tuition or fees.
- D. I will be an ambassador for special needs children by encouraging others to seek higher education, attending an event for presentation of the scholarship and reporting on results of my studies.
- E. The information submitted in this application is complete and correct. I agree to inform Arms Wide Adoption Services of any changes in my circumstances that would affect this scholarship.
- F. I am including an OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT for all colleges, universities or high schools attended.
- G. I understand that any refund by the college or university of tuition and fees paid with Arms Wide Adoption Services scholarship funds must be returned to Arms Wide Adoption Services.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**ARMS WIDE ADOPTION SERVICES  
DAVID AND JACQUE HOLLAND SCHOLARSHIP  
TEACHER/PARENT RECOMMENDATION**

1. Name: Mr. \_\_\_ Ms. \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First MI

2. Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street  
\_\_\_\_\_ City State Zip

3. Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

4. Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Length of time you have known the student: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Consider this student's interests, abilities, work habits, educational and career goals. What is your estimate of the chances that the student will be successful in the chosen program? Please give your reasons for your estimate.

7. Why do you think the student should be considered for a Holland Scholarship?

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date

Applicant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature Date

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Signature Date

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TEACHER/PARENT RECOMMENDATION**

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Signature Date