

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ***What is the Scholarship Fund?***

The Weymouth Scholarship Fund was established by Town Meeting in 1989, in accordance with MGL Chapter 60, §3C. The statute allows a community to designate a place on municipal bills whereby taxpayers may voluntarily contribute to a Scholarship Fund. All donations received are awarded to Weymouth residents in pursuit of higher education, regardless of race, color, creed, age or sex.

## ***Who can apply for a scholarship?***

Any resident of Weymouth, of any age, who is or will be enrolled in an accredited college or trade school, can apply.

## ***I am an adult and want to go back to college to finish my degree. Can I apply?***

Yes, as long as you have resided in Weymouth for at least one year and will be attending an accredited college, trade school or institution.

## ***Where do I apply?***

Applications are available at Town Hall in December or you can download a copy from the Town's Web Site. Completed applications **must** be returned by March 15th. The Award Ceremony takes place at the Annual Town Meeting in May.

## ***How are winners chosen?***

An Award Selection Committee made up of members of the Scholarship Fund Committee scores the applications. Winners are chosen based on scholastic record, community or school involvement, character and financial need. Each applicant's name is removed from the application when received so that the applicant's identity is unknown until all applications are scored and the winners chosen.

## ***If I applied for a Scholarship and was refused, should I bother to apply again?***

Yes. All applicants should reapply every year because circumstances may change. You may have missed qualifying for an award by just a few points and competition varies from year to year.

## ***Can more than one student in a family receive an award in the same year? Can the same student apply for an award each year he/she is attending college?***

Yes, to both questions. However, if you have received two previous awards you cannot apply for a third.

## ***How much of the income received by the Scholarship Fund goes toward administration expenses?***

None, 100% of donations received go to scholarships. The members of the Scholarship Fund Committee are volunteers. Expenses for printing, postage and supplies are paid for by the Town of Weymouth.

## ***What type of education will the Fund assist?***

(1) Any 2 or 4-year college or graduate school leading to a degree; (2) Continuing education to assist in development of student's career goal; and (3) Vocational education where training leads to development of occupational skills.

## ***Where does the money for scholarships come from?***

Money for scholarships comes from:

- (a) Donations from Weymouth taxpayers who voluntarily contribute by sending a check to the Scholarship Fund c/o Town Hall, 75 Middle St., Weymouth, 02189 or by using the inserts included in property tax, excise tax and water/sewer bills. Donations can also be made on line through the bill payment link on the Town's web site.
- (b) Donations made in memory of loved ones. Donation envelopes are available at some funeral homes or you can mail a donation to the Scholarship Fund c/o Town Hall and include the deceased's name with your donation. The Scholarship Committee will send an acknowledgment for each thoughtful gift to the family of the person being memorialized. If total contributions in memory of a loved one exceed \$1,000 a one-time Memorial Scholarship will be awarded. Total contributions received in memory of a loved one that amount to less than \$1,000 will be put into the general Scholarship Fund to be combined with other unrelated contributions for distribution to scholarship recipients.
- (c) Individuals, businesses or organizations may set up a permanent or one-time Scholarship with a donation of at least \$1,000. A scholarship is awarded in the name of the donor's choice.

## ***What is so unique about the Weymouth Scholarship Fund?***

The Weymouth Scholarship Fund is "Weymouth people helping Weymouth people" further their educational goals.

**SUPPORT THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND BY SENDING IN A DONATION TODAY**