



# COMMUNITY FINANCIAL LITERACY

## CFL Scholarship FUND

### Scholarship Program Summary

Community Financial Literacy (CFL) is a growing 501(c)3 non-profit based in Portland, Maine. CFL offers financial literacy courses and one-on-one financial counseling and coaching for individuals and families. Our mission is to empower, through education and counseling, members of refugee and immigrant communities to invest in themselves to build financial stability, careers, business and wealth.

Community Financial Literacy is proud to announce the CFL Scholarship Fund. The goal of CFL's Scholarship Program is to help the selected individuals reach their American dream of obtaining a higher degree. Under the program, CFL will award two full scholarships in the amount of up to \$5,000 each per year to immigrant students who are *ineligible* for federal financial aid, including people with existing foreign degrees. CFL will choose award recipients regardless of ethnicity, national origin, or immigration status.

#### **Program Guidelines & Priorities:**

This is a competitive scholarship. Recipients must be living in the state of Maine when they apply for the scholarship, and must be fully accepted to attend Southern Maine Community College, with plans to pursue an associate's degree from SMCC. Scholarship recipients will be selected based on qualities traditionally valued and demonstrated by the immigrant community: hard work, resourcefulness, perseverance in the face of adversity, academic achievement, leadership, and commitment to one's community.

- \* Direct relatives of CFL employees or Board Members are ineligible to apply.
- \* Applicants must have a minimum GPA (Grade Point Average) of 2.5, and total family annual income must not exceed the federal poverty level (FPL).
- \* Applications will be reviewed, and recipients selected by a diverse committee consisting of volunteers from the community and staff of CFL. Recipients will be notified by April 1, 2018.
- \* If awarded, funds will be paid *in two parts, once in August (50%) and once in January (50%)* directly to SMCC. It will be the student's responsibility to submit to CFL, at that time, an invoice for each semester's tuition and fees, student ID number and college information.
- \* Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation with the application. One should be from their Guidance Counselor/Academic Advisor or their Supervisor (for adult learners). The other can be from any other individual who can attest to the applicant's ability to complete a college course.

Mail one copy of **completed**, typed application package to:

*(This includes application with 2 letters of recommendation, essay, resume, transcript, and proof of status, if applicable.)*

**CFL Scholarship Committee  
c/o Community Financial Literacy  
P.O. Box 8013  
Portland, ME 04104**

**Application must be RECEIVED by 4:00pm on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. Hard Copy Applications Only.  
Emailed applications are not accepted. Late applications are not accepted.  
The recipients will be announced on May 8, 2018.**

Application forms may be downloaded from the Community Financial Literacy website at [cflme.org](http://cflme.org).  
Please submit any questions to: [moshea@cflmaine.org](mailto:moshea@cflmaine.org)





**STATEMENT OF ACCURACY FOR STUDENTS**

I affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also consent that if chosen as a scholarship winner my picture may be taken and used to promote the CFL Scholarship Program. (Winner may decline photo due to unusual or compelling circumstances.)

I understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to the CFL Scholarship policy, I must be present at any potential awards ceremony and reception in May to receive my scholarship award.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to the CFL Scholarship policy, it is my responsibility to remit to the CFL Scholarship Committee the appropriate information for my scholarship to be paid directly to Southern Maine Community College.

I understand that if I fail to maintain full-time student status at SMCC, all eligible funds will be returned to CFL directly from SMCC.

I understand that I must show my GPA to the CFL Scholarship Committee at the end of each term to be eligible for continued scholarship funds, and that the maximum funds available to any one student will be determined by the committee each year.

**Signature of scholarship applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Application Checklist**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application form               | <input type="checkbox"/> School Transcript ( <b>certified and sealed</b> )                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Essay (250-500 words)          | <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of status that makes you ineligible for financial aid (if applicable) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resumé and/or Activity Sheet   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation Letter Number 1 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation Letter Number 2 |  |

**MAIL COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKAGE TO:**

**CFL Scholarship Committee**  
**c/ o Community Financial Literacy**  
**P.O. Box 8013**  
**Portland, ME 04104**

**REMINDER:**

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**Incomplete applications are not accepted.**  
**The awards will be announced on May 8, 2018.**