



Survivor Scholarship Application Packet



FFLI Survivor Scholarship Application Packet

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About the scholarship:

FFLI's Survivor Scholarship is designed to empower survivors of human trafficking who wish to pursue their education, as well as assist organizations around the world who are providing educational assistance to survivors. Applicants may request financial support for any education cost including (but not limited to): tuition, school fees, and school supplies. Individual applicants may also apply for funding to support housing and living costs during higher education. Applicants can apply for funding for any undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral program, although consideration is primarily given to undergraduate applicants.

➤ *Some rules to keep in mind when applying:*

- **Applicants must be survivors of human trafficking** (any form) to be eligible.
- Applicants receive **an average of \$700 per semester**, but FFLI reserves the right to award any amount requested. For example, if an applicant requests \$1000, FFLI may choose to award \$700, which will only be disbursed if the applicant enters an academic program. While applicants may apply and receive up to \$5000 in a calendar year, this amount has never been awarded. Awarded amount is based on the number of applicants, need and likelihood of success.
- Please note that applicant should complete the application for one academic term. Scholarships are given on a term-by-term basis, and applicants may apply separately for funding for multiple semesters.
- **Applicants must have a local sponsoring organization (LSO)**. A LSO is an organization that has worked with the survivor in the past in any capacity and can verify the applicant's status as a survivor. LSOs may include nonprofit organizations, religious institutions, or government agencies.
- **Successful applicants must submit progress reports** to FFLI at designated intervals.
- Successful applicants may reapply each academic term, and continuing applicants will be given priority if they are making satisfactory progress.
- Please know that your information will **never** be shared with the public without your explicit permission.

➤ *Letters of support/references:*

- Letters of support/reference letters should be emailed to scholarship@freeforlifeintl.org.
- Individual applicants need a letter of support from a Local Sponsoring Organization (LSO). LSOs may include nonprofits, government agencies, schools, churches, or other community groups. The letter may be brief and should describe the applicant's relationship with the LSO and why the LSO thinks the applicant is a good candidate for



the proposed educational program. The LSO should be able to confirm the applicant's status as a trafficking survivor, but case details are not needed.

- Individuals also need a letter of reference. This letter should speak to the qualities the applicant possesses that make the applicant a strong candidate for the scholarship. This letter may be written by a staff member of the LSO, another organization, a pastor, a mentor of the applicant, a supervisor or employer, a teacher of the applicant, etc. If the reference letter is written by a staff member of the LSO, then the letter of support from the LSO may be combined with the reference letter provided that the writer knows the applicant on a personal level.
- Letter writers may be contacted by FFLI staff to verify information or to gather additional details.

➤ **How to Submit an Application:**

- Send your completed application and any questions or concerns you have to scholarship@freeforlifeintl.org.
- Be sure to sign your application and include all documents listed on the checklist. If a reference letter or letter of support is being sent separately, be sure the writer emails the letter to scholarship@freeforlifeintl.org.
- Please submit your application according to the following deadlines:
 - Deadline for Spring funding: November 16th at 5:00 PM
 - Deadline for Summer funding: March 15th at 5:00 PM
 - Deadline for Fall funding: July 12th at 5:00 PM
- You can submit an application at any time, but if it is submitted after a listed deadline, it will be taken into consideration for the following term.
- Applicants will be asked to attend an interview that will take place online via video conference or over the phone.
- Applicants may complete the application in any language, but English is preferred to speed the review process.
- Applicants are welcome to have a third party assist them with completing the application.
- After FFLI receives an application, the Program Coordinator will notify them that their materials have been submitted successfully.

➤ **What to Expect after you Submit an Application:**

- All scholarship applications are considered by FFLI's Scholarship Subcommittee within two weeks following the submission deadline for that semester.
- After the applications are reviewed, each applicant will be contacted by a FFLI team member for an interview via phone or video conference. This interview is simply to get to know each applicant better.
- After all of the interviews are completed, the Scholarship Subcommittee will meet again to decide which applicants will be awarded a scholarship for that semester. The final acceptance or rejection decisions will be made within three weeks following the submission deadline for that semester.
- These funding decisions are then communicated to each applicant by FFLI's Programs Coordinator.



□ ***If an Applicant is Selected for a Scholarship***

- Successful applicants will be notified via email or phone call by a FFLI team member.
- **Recipients will receive and sign the FFLI Scholarship Agreement form** before the scholarship funds are dispersed. This form will detail the funds given and how they may be used. This form will also state the frequency with which progress reports must be submitted, and the length of the term of the scholarship (ex: academic year, calendar year, semester, etc.).
- **Recipients will receive a Recipient Questionnaire** that will allow recipients to set boundaries about what information may be shared with the public. This questionnaire must be completed before the scholarship funds are dispersed. For individuals, this form will allow you to tell FFLI if you are comfortable with us sharing your first name, if any photographs may be shared, what information about your personal journey we may share, etc. Your responses to this form have no impact on your eligibility for the scholarship so please share your preferences honestly. We will happily respect any boundaries you set about sharing information with the public and will *never* share any information about you without your explicit consent.
- **Recipients will be matched with a mentor** as part of the FFLI Thrive Mentor program. The Thrive Mentor program is a component of the scholarship program, and when you are selected for a scholarship, you are also selected for the mentorship program. This mentor will help the recipient develop professional skills that will assist in the recipient's collegiate career, as well as give advice to the recipient based on their needs. This mentor will communicate with the recipient on a monthly basis. A mentor is **required** for all recipients, unless exempted by FFLI's Executive Director. Recipients must seek a meeting with the E.D. to determine if they are exempt. All recipients will receive a certificate once they are done with the semester of mentoring.
- **Successful recipients must submit progress reports** to FFLI at designated intervals in order to be eligible for a renewal of their scholarship, typically half way through the semester. These progress reports include the FFLI Progress Report Questionnaire and an overview of the recipient's grades at that point in the applicable semester.
- At the end of the semester, scholarship recipients must fill out the **End-of-Semester report**. This report must be submitted, along with the Scholarship Renewal Application, in order to be eligible for a renewal of their scholarship.



Scholarship Application

Applicant Contact Information	
Full name:	
Date of birth:	
City of birth:	
Current home address:	
Email address:	
Phone number:	
Date of application:	

Applicant Background	Response
Highest grade or degree completed:	
Date of high school graduation/anticipated date of graduation:	
Local Sponsoring Organization or church (include name, email address, phone number and website):	
How are you connected to the local sponsoring organization/church?	
Personal or Work Reference (include name, email address, and phone number):	

Academic Plans	Response
Where do you plan to study (include full name and address of the institution)?	
In which program do you plan to enroll? Are you currently enrolled?	
How long does the program take to complete? What is the program schedule (i.e.: semesters, quarters, etc.)?	
Will you work a job during the program (examples can include internships and summer employment, etc.)?	
Have you been accepted to the program of your choice?	



Do you have housing and transportation arranged at the program location?	
For which semester or academic term are you requesting funding? Please limit your request to one academic term per application.	

Budget/Finances	Response
Total request amount (please list in US dollars <i>and</i> local currency (ex: MXN, etc.)):	
Do you have any other sources of funding? If yes, please elaborate.	
Total cost of program tuition and fees per semester (or relevant timeframe):	

Essay Questions (answers may be as short/long as needed to answer)	Response
Why did you choose the academic program you have chosen? Explain why you wish to study the field you have chosen as well as the institution you have selected.	
Why do you want to pursue higher education? What qualities do you possess that will enable you to succeed in the program?	
Have you identified a mentor who works in your chosen field? If yes, please explain. If no, how do you plan to develop a relationship with a mentor?	
What are your goals after you complete the program (ex: graduate school, volunteering with a nonprofit, teaching, working in your field, etc.)?	
Any additional comments?	



Budget Form for Scholarship Application

Name of Applicant:	
Date of Application Submission:	
Item:	Cost:
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	
Total request in US\$:	

Note: Applicants may apply for funding for tuition, school supplies, school fees, testing supplies, housing and/or food and/or transportation to be used during an academic period, and/or educational equipment. If an applicant would like to apply for funding that does not fit into one of those categories, please contact a FFLI staff member to discuss before applying. Applicants who are awarded scholarships will be expected to turn in copies of receipts to FFLI for any non-tuition or housing related items over \$50.00 if FFLI cannot pay directly to the institution.