About Philadelphia Scholars

Philadelphia Scholars receive Last Dollar Scholarships, filling the gap between financial aid, other scholarships and the total amount needed to attend college. Award amounts range from $300-$4,000 every year for up to six consecutive years while enrolled in college.

Often the first in their families to attend college, Philadelphia Scholars receive support from Ed Fund staff critical to their college journey. Services include workshops on topics such as time management and enhancing study skills, mentoring and internship placements, along with scholarships.

Since the Scholars Program began in 1990, over $11 million in Last Dollar Scholarships have been awarded to more than 2,200 students.

For more information, go to http://www.philaedfund.org/.

The First Year Experience

Helping college freshmen to hit the ground running!

Each summer, Philadelphia Scholars convenes a daylong conference, First Year Experience, for incoming college freshman. This year’s event, held on July 26, featured workshops titled, “Making the Grade” and “Navigating Your Way Through College,”—providing students with practical strategies to improve time management and access on-campus resources. A workshop for parents gave tips for supporting their college student. Hosted by Peirce College and with support from the Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation, First Year Experience also gave students an opportunity to connect with each other, sharing the common excitement of starting their college journey. “It was a great day and we look forward to it being even better next year!” said Tia Hall, Scholars Coordinator.

Students listen to expert advice at First Year Experience 2013.

Many Thanks to the Scholars Advisory Committee (SAC)

We are grateful for the dedication, time and energy of these individuals who believe in Scholars because:

- “As the daughter of blue collar parents and a product of the Philadelphia School District, the Last Dollar Scholarship alleviated a significant financial burden. It allowed me to focus on exceeding academically and provided my parents with peace of mind.” Tiffany Flippen
- “What isn’t a lot of money for you, may make all the difference for the students we serve. For many of us, $3,000 would not prevent a family member from attending college. We would find that money. The students we serve do not have this support. Parents making $16,000 a year do not have $3,000 for college. The Scholars Program, fills the gap.” Shanee Garner-Nelson
- “Through the Last Dollar Scholarship we give as many students as possible an opportunity to attend and graduate from college. In order to succeed as a city, we need to reach a wide range of Philadelphia’s students and help them attain a college education.” A. Morris Williams, Jr.

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Philadelphia Scholars need your help! This holiday season join the SAC in giving the most valuable of gifts: an education. Send your tax-deductible donation today in the enclosed envelope or give online at www.philaedfund.org/give. Thank you!
Mentoring Program Grows!

Through our partnering businesses, 55 Scholars college freshmen were matched with a mentor through at least the first two years of college, more than doubling from last year. Our newest partner, Mitchell & Titus, has seven staff mentoring students, and anticipates adding more mentors soon.

Each business provides a volunteer mentor coordinator. Clifton J. Smith, Senior Auditor at Mitchell & Titus and volunteer mentor coordinator for the company says, “Being a mentor gives me a sense of honor and humility…It allows me to give back by helping someone strive for greater things.” Mr. Smith likens the mentor program to a community and says, “I know I had a village supporting me to get to where I am and am still reaching towards. No one can make it out here alone.”

The program started in 2011 when 12 Philadelphia Scholars college sophomores were matched with Shire Pharmaceuticals employee volunteers. Research shows that mentors have a positive impact on a student’s academic achievement and college retention, which is especially important for students who are the first in their family to go to college and do not have an “expert” they can talk to about academic challenges.

Get involved! We need more businesses to partner with us. Contact Tia Hall, Philadelphia Scholars Coordinator at 215-574-1241 ext. 104 or thall@philaedfund.org for more information.

Preparing for Life After College

Internships help pave the way

Our business partners give Philadelphia Scholars professional experience through internships. Last summer, Anabeth Rosado participated in the Philadelphia Scholar’s internship program at Shire Pharmaceuticals. Anabeth, a senior at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, found the internship to be a great introduction to work life post-college.

“Being all day in an office was new for me and it was hard to adjust,” said Anabeth. When she started her internship, Anabeth kept to herself but she quickly recognized the importance of building relationships. “At first I was really shy, but I learned the benefit of talking to your co-workers—they might be able to help you if your manager is busy.” Anabeth has taken this experience to heart, keeping in touch with her mentors and managers from Shire Pharmaceuticals.

Having this practical work experience on her resume is something Anabeth never would have dreamed about four years ago when she spent her first night ever away from home in her freshman dorm. For this 2010 graduate of Edison High School in North Philadelphia, leaving home to go to college was a tough adjustment. “At first, I’d stay in my room and not talk to anyone. That first night I thought ‘What did I do?’” she recalls.

Fast forward to fall semester 2013—Anabeth has made Dean’s list nearly every semester and has many friends to keep in touch with after her May 2014 graduation.

“College has been a great experience for me,” says Anabeth, “A huge reason I am successful is the Scholars program and College Access. They helped me get where I am today.” From the beginning, our College Access Program staff helped her think about the possibility of college. Created in 1990, the College Access Program is Philadelphia’s largest and most broadly-based college assistance program, making a college education accessible to anyone interested in pursuing higher education regardless of age, grade level, or location. The generous support of our donors has helped her stay in college and prepare for life after college.

Don’t Miss Score 4 Scholarships!

May 10, 2014, 9am at Drexel’s Daskalakis Center
To sponsor the tournament, register a team, or recommend a celebrity coach, contact Rob Kutzik at rutzik@philaedfund.org or call 215-665-1400 ext. 3350.
Honor Roll  
July 1, 2012—June 30, 2013

Thank you to all of our donors who give generously to help make college dreams a reality for our Philadelphia Scholars.

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ted your lasting support to the distinguished group or if you have already committed your lasting support to the Scholars Program, please contact Haley Singer at hsinger@philaedfund.org or 215-665-1400 ext. 3339.

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* Denotes Scholars Advisory Committee Member
+ Denotes Ed Fund Board Member
^ Denotes Ed Fund staff member

LEAVE A LEGACY

This spring, we will roll out our Legacy Society and name our charter members. If you would like to be a part of this distinguished group or if you have already committed your lasting support to the Scholars Program, please contact Haley Singer at hsinger@philaedfund.org or 215-665-1400 ext. 3339.

Thank you for your generosity.

Haley Singer, Manager of Philanthropy. She looks forward to meeting all of our supporters and can be reached at 215-665-1400 ext. 3339.
Meet Nicole McBride Bey, Philadelphia Scholars Alumnus and 2012 graduate of Millersville University.

**Philadelphia Scholars**: Tell us a little bit about what you are doing now.

**Nicole McBride Bey**: I’m a Public Relations Consultant based in Philadelphia, helping small businesses build brand image and social media networks and providing training on online engagement. I’m also on the executive board of iROC, which stands for Intelligently Redefining Our Culture.

**PS**: You started out as a Biology Major, and then switched to Communications and Public Relations. How did you make that decision?

**NMB**: I had a heart to heart with my academic counselor who helped me look at my strengths and all my characteristics and realized communications was a much better fit. I think it’s important for new college freshmen to know that it’s okay not to know what major they want. But once you’re on campus, find a mentor and use all the resources they have.

**PS**: You also had an on-campus job, how did that help your education experience?

**NMB**: I worked for the Vice President of Student Affairs. It was helpful to work with people who made tough decisions; I really got to understand why they made the decisions they did. I saw that everything had a process, and a system in place—which was helpful to me in starting my own business.

**PS**: What does the Ed Fund/Philadelphia Scholars mean to you?

**NMB**: Of course the Scholarship was helpful for tuition, books and room and board. But it was also helpful early on to be able to visit schools outside of Philadelphia and have the opportunity to see other places. Just having someone to call once I got to college was helpful.

Looking Back...

Our donors have a lasting impact. Philadelphia Scholars catches up with a former student to learn how.

Nicole McBride Bey is a Scholars Alumnus.