

# Birth Parent Scholarship Fund

Adoptions From The Heart®

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Adoptions From The Heart®

AFTH is a private, non-profit, non-sectarian agency licensed in PA, NJ, DE, VA, CT and NY.

### Why a Scholarship Fund?

Adoptions From The Heart's social workers have been working with expecting and birth parents for over 30 years. Many of the men and women they work with are hoping to pursue further education to improve their lives and follow their passion but often times financial obstacles may stand in their way.

AFTH wanted to help birth parents get back on their feet and establish long-term careers and so created the Birth Parent Scholarship Fund. Educational scholarships are awarded to birthparents and are *not limited to those who placed through AFTH*.



"Making an adoption plan was the hardest decision of my life, but choosing to better myself so my daughter

has someone to look up to was the easiest. Achieving my goal of getting a degree made me a better person." -Amy, Scholarship Winner

### Qualifications:

Educational scholarships can be used for trade school or for undergradute studies. The Scholarship Fund is **not** limited to birthparents who placed through AFTH.

#### Eligible candidates:

- ✓ Placed a child for adoption since 1985
- ✓ Have been accepted into a college or trade school
- ✓ Show financial need
- ✓ Submit an essay regarding their personal adoption story and education goals

# Reapplying Qualifications:

Scholarship recipients are eligible for up to <u>eight semesters</u>. To qualify for additional scholarships, recipients must:

- ✓ Maintain a 2.5 or higher grade point average (GPA)
- ✓ Submit a scholarship application online prior to each semester's deadline
- ✔ Provide a copy of your transcript from the previous semester

For questions concerning the Scholarship Program, call 1-800-355-5500



# Application:

To fill out an application online visit AFTH's Birth Parent Scholarship page: www.afth.org/pregnant/birthparent-scholarships

You will be asked questions about your education level, financial need, criminal history, and adoption journey.

#### You will need to include:

- ✓ Copy of W-2 or last year's tax return
- Essay about your adoption story
- ✓ Letter of verification of placement from agency or attorney you worked with
- ✔ Proof of acceptance to a trade school or undergraduate program

### Deadlines:

Spring Semester - December 1st Fall Semester - July 1st

#### Process:

Qualified and <u>complete</u> applications received by the submission deadline will be presented to our Board of Directors' Scholarship Committee. All sections of the application will be taken into consideration.

Twice a year, the Scholarship Committee will meet to review the applications for that semester. They will then choose the winnings applicant(s) who will then be notified. Unfortunately, not every applicant will be awarded a scholarship.

<u>PLEASE NOTE</u>: Expecting parents should know that choosing adoption for your baby does **not** guarantee a scholarship will be awarded. The number and amount of scholarships awarded each semester varies based on the number of applicants and need.

Payments are made directly to schools.