

## **21<sup>st</sup> Century Success Fellowship (Application due June 15th)**

**Opportunity.** The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Success Fellowship is an exciting opportunity to put selected 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars from St. Joseph County on a path to a successful career by completing 2- or 4-year degrees from a college or university located in St. Joseph County, Indiana.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Success Fellowship has many benefits, including a \$5,000 per year (\$500 per month from August to May) stipend. This money is in addition to the state-funded 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship which applies to tuition.

Beyond the financial benefits, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Success Fellows actively participate in programs aimed at personal leadership development, career preparation and degree completion. Fellowship program activities include career exploration, professional development and networking opportunities, leadership development including near-peer mentoring and outreach to potential 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholars in middle and high school, and other enrichment activities related to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century College Scholar Success Program.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Success Fellowship may be renewed to cover a 2- or 4-year course of study at an approved St. Joseph County\* institution. ***Renewal is contingent on satisfactory participation in Fellowship activities and retention of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship.***

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Students must:

- Be a St. Joseph County high school senior or college student eligible to receive a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship (meeting all scholar success program requirements);
- Maintain at least a 2.5 GPA;
- Be a resident of St. Joseph County, Indiana;
- Graduate from an accredited St. Joseph County high school;
- Intend to pursue or currently be pursuing a degree through a full-time course of study at an accredited tax-exempt college or university located in St. Joseph County\*;

*Eligibility Note: Family members of those serving on the fellowship nomination committee or Community Foundation staff are deemed ineligible (defined as spouses, lineal descendants and their spouses, siblings and their spouses).*

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Complete the 2023 21st Century Success Fellowship Program Eligibility Quiz found online at: [www.cfsjc.org/scholarshipapp](http://www.cfsjc.org/scholarshipapp)
  - You will first need to create an account. We recommend you use a personal email address instead of your school email.
  - Navigate to the “Apply” page and you will see a list of eligibility quizzes. If eligible, complete the 21st Century Scholar Fellowship application through the online scholarship system.
- 1-page letter of recommendation** from a person in a leadership position who knows you well (e.g. teacher, principal, guidance counselor, pastor, employer, youth worker) submitted through the online system. The letter should not come from family members.
- Official high school transcript.** This should be uploaded by a school official into the online scholarship system.
- College transcript** (if applicable).

## APPLICATION SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Additional information that has not been requested will not be accepted.
- Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. There will be no exceptions.

**Online application must be complete and submitted by 11:59 p.m. on June 15<sup>th</sup>.** It is the responsibility of the student to ensure the application is complete and all materials are received on or before the deadline.

**Renewal:** The award is renewable up to 2-4 years (depending on the degree sought). Students are required to submit a renewal application each year in order to be considered for further support. Eligibility for fellowship renewal requires retaining the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship (which includes completion of College Scholar Success Program requirements annually) and satisfactory progress toward a degree at college or university in St. Joseph County. Renewal information will be sent to fellowship recipients by the Community Foundation in the spring of each school year.

**Selection Criteria and Process:** Recipients will be identified by a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Success Fellowship Selection Committee who will seek to reward those students who have demonstrated motivation and the drive to succeed as evidenced in their application. The committee will take into consideration the following criteria: demonstrated motivation, leadership, involvement in school-related activities, service, employment history, written essays, and a letter of recommendation. A personal interview will also weigh significantly in the Committee’s selection process.

**Initial Award and Subsequent Renewals will be contingent on successful participation in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholarship Program.**

*\*St. Joseph County colleges and universities: Indiana University South Bend, Ivy Tech Community College South Bend, Bethel University, Holy Cross College, Saint Mary’s College, University of Notre Dame, Purdue Polytechnic.*