



Shelley Reed Memorial Scholarship

Shelley Reed, of Wayne, Maine, was passionate about the education of all children. She was a teacher and school counselor before she became an Education Specialist at the Maine Department of Education where she focused on the areas of truancy, dropout prevention, alternative education, school counseling, homeless education, and expelled and suspended youth. She also served as liaison to the military, and worked with the Maine Afterschool Network and Juvenile Justice Advisory Group. She was actively engaged in the Maine Charter School movement and served as President of the Maine Alliance of Public Charter Schools, an experience that cemented her belief that all children can achieve. She served as Co-Chair of the Governor's Task Force to Engage All Students convened during Governor Baldacci's term to address the needs of disengaged students aged 16-24.

Shelley served for more than ten years as a Board Member of Syntiro, a nonprofit organization located in Augusta (previously Readfield).

In honor of Shelley's memory, the Syntiro Board of Directors has established the **Shelley Reed Memorial Scholarship**. This \$1,000 annual scholarship will be awarded to a youth in foster care who aspires to continue their education beyond high school. The award will be announced in late May each year and awarded on behalf of the student to the institute of higher education at which the student is enrolled the fall immediately following graduation from high school.

All Maine 12th graders who are in foster care during at least part of their senior year in high school are eligible to apply.

The application must be submitted no later than April 1 each year. The application, essay, and two letters of recommendation (from a teacher, school counselor, JMG specialist, case manager, employer, foster parent, etc.) should be emailed to Syntiro (office@syntiro.org) with "Shelley Reed Scholarship Application" in the subject line.



Shelley Reed Memorial Scholarship Application

To be eligible for Syntiro's Shelley Reed Memorial Scholarship you must:

- (1) be in foster care during at least part of your senior year in high school; and
- (2) be accepted to an in-state Maine public or private institution of higher education.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ High School: _____

Email Address: _____

REQUIRED: A JMG Specialist or DHHS Caseworker signature is required here to confirm that you have been in foster care during at least part of your senior year:

I verify that the above named student is currently a senior in high school and has resided in foster care for at least part of their senior year.

Name: _____ Role: _____

Signature: _____

Essay

In no more than two pages, please share why your journey to college and beyond will benefit from this \$1,000 scholarship.

The following prompts may be used to guide your writing: What are your academic goals? Describe contributions you have made or will make to your community. Who or what has served as an influence or inspiration to you? In what ways has foster care assisted you in overcoming barriers?

Please email your completed application, two reference letters, and the required essay to office@syntiro.org NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2024.