What is the College Fund?

The College Fund provides grants to Pinellas County residents who require significant financial aid in addition to a Pell Grant in order to remain full-time undergraduate college students. Grants are up to $1,000 per school year ($500 per semester) for up to four years; however, retention in the program is dependent upon a review of student grades, course load, and financial need after each semester. College Fund directors remain in contact with student recipients to monitor their academic progress and support them in their educational pursuits. In its 47 years of service the all-volunteer, tax-exempt organization has assisted over 650 county residents to attend accredited colleges and universities. More information about the College Fund of Pinellas County, Inc. can be found on its website: www.collegefundpinellas.org

What requirements must an applicant meet?

To qualify for a Financial Aid Grant from the College Fund, a student must meet four criteria:

1. Be a U.S. citizen residing in Pinellas County,
2. (a.) Be a high school graduate with a grade point average of at least 3.00, or
   (b.) Be a current or former college student who has demonstrated the ability to complete at least 12 hours in a single term (semester, quarter, etc.) in courses credited toward graduation and with a grade point average of 2.0 or higher (although recent recipients have had a 3.0 or higher).
3. Be a full time (i.e., taking or planning to take a minimum of 12 hours credited toward graduation which cannot include remedial courses) undergraduate student in a regionally accredited (e.g., Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) college or university, and
4. Be a recipient of a Pell Grant.

When should I apply?

New applicants (i.e., students who have not received a College Fund grant in the current or preceding semester) should submit their application as soon as possible after the spring college semester (or after graduation for high school students). No applications will be accepted after 32 interview appointments are filled or the fourth Friday in July, whichever comes first.

How can I apply for a grant?

If you meet the above requirements, then request an application by filling out the form on the back of this page and mailing it to:

College Fund of Pinellas County, Inc.
P.O. Box 673
Clearwater, FL 33757

Student Handout January 8, 2013
REQUEST FOR AN APPLICATION FOR A GRANT

My full name: ________________________________

I am a US citizen and a resident of Pinellas County, Florida. My permanent home address is as follows:

Street address: ______________________________________
City/State/Zip: ______________________________________

My telephone number is as follows: _________________________

My email address is as follows: _____________________________

I have received (or expect to receive) a Pell Grant and have been enrolled (or expect to enroll) at the following college or university as a full time student (i.e., taking or planning to take a minimum of 12 hours credited toward graduation each term):

______________________________________________________

(Name of College or University)

My (  ) high school or (  ) college grade point average is ____________________________

I had to provide parental information on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

_____ Yes  _____ No  (This will determine which type of application form we send you.)

Signature: ____________________________________________

Privacy Policy

Maintaining student privacy is important to the College Fund of Pinellas County, Inc. By printing, signing and submitting this Request for Application form via regular US mail, applicants give their permission for their personal information thus provided to be shared only among the directors of the College Fund of Pinellas County, Inc. for the purpose of determining the applicant’s eligibility to compete for a College Fund grant.

Postal and email addresses and telephone numbers provided on this form will be used only by the directors of the College Fund of Pinellas County, Inc. and only to request clarification of information submitted by potential applicants, to mail Application Forms to eligible applicants, or to inform ineligible applicants of their non-selection to receive an Application Form. The College Fund of Pinellas County, Inc. will not sell, share, rent or otherwise transfer information provided on the Request for Application form to any other organization or to any other persons.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this Privacy Policy, please contact the College Fund of Pinellas County, Inc. at info@collegefundpinellas.org or at P.O. Box 673, Clearwater, FL 33757.