

LITTLE GIANT SCHOLARSHIP FUND



OUR GOAL

The Little Giant Scholarship Fund was established in 2005 by a group of Canton High School alumni who wanted to take an active role in improving the community. The goal of the Fund is to enhance educational opportunities for CHS graduates by awarding annual scholarships to worthy individuals who intend to pursue post-secondary education at a reputable and accredited university, college, junior college, or trade organization. Currently, scholarships are awarded on a one-time basis for the first year of post-secondary education. As the Fund grows, we will begin to award multi-year scholarships.

FUND ADMINISTRATION

The Little Giant Scholarship Fund is a private endowment. It is not affiliated with Canton District 66 or any governmental entity. Donations to the Fund come from generous individuals and businesses in Canton and surrounding communities. Awards are paid directly to the school of choice in the name of the award recipient. The board of directors, which consists wholly of CHS alumni, plans and organizes the structure and activities of the Fund. An independent committee selects the CHS student(s) for the annual award. Thus, the Fund is not a donor-advised scholarship.

The Fund has established an agreement with the Community Foundation of Central Illinois (CFCI), a non-profit foundation entity. This agreement enables the Fund to raise money under the non-profit umbrella of CFCI, so the Fund grows tax-free. The non-profit agreement allows contributions to the Fund to qualify as charitable deductions for donors' income tax purposes. This agreement also offers other professional management benefits to the Fund.

WHAT MAKES THE FUND UNIQUE

How is the Little Giant Scholarship different from other local scholarships? First, a majority of graduating CHS seniors are eligible. Second, the Fund board works closely with the CHS counseling staff to fill a specific niche — assisting a worthy student(s) who is in need of, but has not yet received, sufficient aid. The general application requirements set by the Fund board are listed below. The Fund board wishes to assist students in furthering their education and thus increasing their opportunities for success in life — as they define it. The Fund will not only increase opportunities for the award recipients, it will also positively affect the Canton community and other communities in which these individuals live and work.

To APPLY

1. Must be a graduating Canton Senior High School (CHS) senior with a minimum graduating grade point average of 2.8 (on a 4.0 scale) who will attend a university, college, junior college, or trade organization.
2. Must demonstrate a clear economic need. CHS counseling staff will gather family financial information and confirm eligibility for the Fund board.
3. Must demonstrate active community involvement. Examples of community involvement and spirit include, but are not limited to, donating time and effort assisting the following:
 - a) Church or other community youth groups
 - b) Cub/Boy/Girl Scouts
 - c) Environmental organizations
 - d) Crisis centers
 - e) Habitat for Humanity
 - f) Homeless, poor, or benevolent organizations
 - g) Disabled, veteran, elderly assistance organizations
 - h) Other charitable, school, or civic organizations
4. Must provide a minimum 250-word essay containing personal details on the following topics:
 - a) Desired degree, intended career field, and why these were selected
 - b) Definition of outstanding leadership and citizenship
 - c) Explanation of why the applicant should be considered for the award

To DONATE

Donations may be sent to the Fund at the following address:

The Community Foundation of Central Illinois
c/o Little Giant Scholarship Fund
331 Fulton Street, Suite 310
Peoria, Illinois 61602
(309) 674-8730

****** Please make sure the check is made out to: Little Giant Scholarship Fund ******

Note: Because CFCI is a non-profit entity, contributions may be tax deductible. Check with your tax advisor for eligibility. For any donation valued at \$100 or above, CFCI will return a proof of donation for tax purposes. All appreciable assets, personal checks and like instruments are welcomed and greatly appreciated. If donors wish to remain anonymous or have any other requests, please include this information with the gift.

CONTACT Us

2009 Fund board members:

Michael Anthony "Tony" Simmons – chairperson, 1986 CHS graduate	309-657-3113
Cindy Lock, 1985 CHS graduate	309-338-6946
William Luthy, 1990 CHS graduate	309-258-4616
Scott Miller, 1988 CHS graduate	309-647-6694
Troy Smith, 1985 CHS graduate	309-361-8898

Fund website: <http://www.communityfoundationci.org/addscholarships.asp>

Fund email: littlegiantscholarshipfund@yahoo.com