

YAWKEY

SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Scholar Handbook **2018 - 2019**

This handbook contains important information describing the program, Scholar responsibilities and the current program policies and procedures.

Please keep this handbook for future reference.

The Yawkey Scholars Program is a program of the Yawkey Foundation and is administered by The Philanthropic Initiative (TPI).

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HISTORY AND BACKGROUND



Tom and Jean Yawkey

The Yawkey Foundations

The Yawkey Foundations trace their origins back over seven decades to the philanthropic commitments of Tom and Jean Yawkey. With great concern for the forgotten and underserved, Tom and Jean Yawkey took careful steps to ensure that their legacy would live on through the work of the Yawkey Foundations. The Yawkeys were perhaps best known for their longtime ownership of the Boston Red Sox. More quietly, but with just as much passion and commitment, Tom and Jean Yawkey were also engaged in an unwavering dedication to those most in need.

The Yawkeys' commitment to philanthropy extended to many organizations throughout New England and Georgetown County, South Carolina. They were particularly interested in supporting organizations that encouraged educational opportunities, improved health care, enhanced human service programs, provided youth and amateur athletic opportunities, celebrated arts and cultural endeavors, and valued conservation efforts.

With the historic 2002 sale of the Boston Red Sox, the Trustees of the Yawkey Foundations were given the opportunity to use the resources provided by the Yawkey legacy to honor Tom and Jean Yawkey's commitment to those in need. Since 1977, the Trustees of the Yawkey Foundations have awarded more than \$430 million to a broad range of organizations. The Yawkey Foundations look forward to continuing their efforts to build hope and create opportunity in the lives of children, families, and the underserved.

Yawkey Scholars Program

The Yawkey Foundation's mission is to continue the charitable legacy of Tom and Jean Yawkey to make immediate, significant, and positive impacts on the quality of life of underserved children, youth and families. The Yawkeys valued the importance of education and understood its ability to alter the course of young lives. To honor this legacy of learning, the Yawkey Foundation Board of Trustees established the Yawkey Scholars Program in 2005 to help talented and motivated disadvantaged young people meet the rising costs of undergraduate education.

- Since 2005, the Yawkey Scholars Program has provided over \$12 million in tuition supports to more than 300 Scholars as they pursue a college education in Massachusetts and South Carolina.
- To date, 182 Yawkey Scholars have graduated from college.
- For the 2018-2019 school year, there are 80 Yawkey Scholars in Massachusetts and 38 in South Carolina. There are 28 Scholars in the 2018 Cohort: 16 from Massachusetts and 12 from South Carolina.
- Each Yawkey Scholar is paired with a Yawkey Advisor, who provides support, guidance and facilitates access to available resources.

OBJECTIVES OF THE YAWKEY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

- To help make college affordable, leaving Scholars with a reasonable loan burden upon graduation.
- To help Scholars achieve academic success.
- To help Scholars reach their full potential and go on to be successful and highly productive members of society.
- To create a network of Scholars who encourage and support one another.
- To support Scholars to pursue meaningful summer experiences, internships and/or work opportunities.
- To prepare Scholars for careers post-graduation and/or graduate school.
- To encourage Scholars to participate in their campus and community.
- To encourage a positive identification and pride in being a Yawkey Scholar.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Students are selected for the Yawkey Scholars Program based on the following criteria:

- Strong academic record or demonstration of significant improvement over time.
- Ability and motivation to achieve in college.
- Involved in a balance of community, school, and work activities, exhibiting leadership potential and a desire to make a meaningful contribution to society.
- Engaged in a meaningful, sustained mentoring program or ongoing relationship with an adult role model.
- Demonstrated financial need.
- Senior at an accredited high school in Massachusetts or Georgetown County, South Carolina.
- Enrolled at a private college in Massachusetts or a public or private college in South Carolina.

SCHOLAR RESPONSIBILITIES/EXPECTATIONS

- Maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- Consistent contact with Yawkey Advisor – minimum of four times annually.
- Make every effort to attend Yawkey Scholar events.
 - When receiving event invitations, we expect Scholars to respond to indicate whether they can or cannot attend.
- Productive summer experiences (some combination of work, internships, volunteering, classes, etc.).
- Timely submission of all program materials:
 - Transcripts
 - Renewal Application
 - Other forms as requested
- Inform the Yawkey Scholars Program of any changes in Scholar contact information (email, phone number, address at school, address at home).
- Give back/volunteer.
- Responsive to emails and correspondence from Yawkey Advisors, Yawkey Foundation and TPI staff.

YAWKEY SCHOLARS PROGRAM COMPONENTS

1. Tuition Support

- Annual scholarship to cover tuition & fees at private colleges in Massachusetts or public and private colleges in South Carolina.

2. Mentoring/Social Support

- Each Scholar is paired with a Yawkey Advisor who is his/her primary contact for this program.
- The role of the Advisor is to:
 - Provide Scholars with support and helpful advice.
 - Facilitate problem solving and decision making (support students to access available resources at their schools and in their communities).
 - Provide access to a network of resources that will help Scholars to achieve the Yawkey Scholars Program goals:
 - Maintain strong academic performance
 - Have meaningful summer experiences
 - Build strong association as Yawkey Scholar
- Scholars are required to check in with their Advisors at least four times annually, and Advisors will provide additional support as requested. Check-ins can take place on the phone, via email or in person.

3. Opportunities Fund

- Beginning in their sophomore year, Scholars who meet all program expectations will have access to the Opportunities Fund. Requirements include:
 - GPA of 3.0 or above
 - Consistent contact with Advisor
 - Responsiveness and courtesy to Scholarship Program invitations
- The purpose of the Opportunities Fund is to
 - Help Scholars to take advantage of opportunities, in line with their academic goals, that otherwise would be financially prohibitive
 - Reward initiative and incentivize Scholar success
- Potential uses of the Opportunities Fund include:
 - Academic expenses
 - Stipends for summer internships with non-profits
 - Summer class tuition
 - Additional costs associated with study abroad
 - Other urgent financial needs
- Maximum Opportunities Fund grant is \$2,500 per Scholar per year.
- Applications must be submitted in advance of the planned activity. Review of applications and approval takes a few weeks. The program cannot reimburse a Scholar for expenses incurred.
- There is an expectation that Scholars will contribute financially toward the overall cost.
- Scholars should work directly with their Advisor to make requests to the Opportunities Fund. The Program will assess Scholars' needs and make decisions on a case-by-case basis.
- Any portion of the total grants and scholarships that exceed the cost of the student's tuition, fees, books and supplies is considered taxable to the student.

Students should always talk with their Advisor regarding any questions.

DEADLINES

Transcript and Renewal Submission Deadlines

- **January 15th**: Submit mid-year transcript to TPI
- **June 15th**: Submit Renewal Application – email required documents to yawkey@tpi.org. The renewal application is available on the TPI website.

<https://www.grantinterface.com/yawkey/common/logon.aspx>

If for any reason you are not able to make a deadline, notify your Advisor and Program staff in ADVANCE with an explanation.

Advisor Check-ins

In September, the Scholar and Advisor will determine the preferred method of contact (phone or email) for these check-ins. It is the student's responsibility to ensure they check in with their Advisors at least four times annually.

Scholars are always welcome to contact their Advisor more frequently than the four annual check-ins and are encouraged to do so whenever the need arises. For Scholars who are experiencing significant challenges, Advisors may request additional check-ins.

PROGRAM STAFF AND ADVISOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Staff

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