Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship
Bucks Information List

The Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship is a generous (up to $30,000 per year), highly competitive scholarship for students planning to enroll full time in a bachelor’s degree program in fall 2011. Bucks County Community College may nominate two eligible candidates for this scholarship. The scholarship provides funding for educational expenses, which may include tuition, room and board, required fees, and books for the remainder of a bachelor’s degree program. Nominees must demonstrate high academic achievement and significant unmet financial need and be planning to enroll full time in a bachelor’s degree program beginning in the Fall 2011 semester.

If you are interested in exploring your eligibility for the JKC Scholarship, we ask that you take the following steps as soon as possible, since parts of the application process need to be started by mid-November.

Step 1
Learn more about this scholarship and the application process by visiting the JKC Foundation web site at www.jkcf.org. Specific information is available about nominee guidelines, minimum eligibility requirements, and FAQs for applicants. The JKC Foundation also recommends that applicants consider selective colleges, which are looked on favorably by the JKC Foundation. Read their information on: Why Selectivity Matters in Your College Decision, Applying to Competitive Colleges, Competitive Four-Year Institutions, and What to Ask During Your Campus Visit.

Step 2
Read and note the following facts about eligibility

Students are NOT eligible to be nominated if they:
- have any college degree (other than an Associate degree) from a U.S. or foreign university,
- have taken more than 6 credits at a four-year college (other than college credits taken during high school), or
- have other means of support for their education.

Students MAY be eligible if ALL of the following are true. Students must:
- be planning to begin a bachelor’s degree program at a four-year college in fall 2011;
- have a cumulative GPA (from all colleges attended) of at least 3.5;
- have completed at least 30 credits by the end of the Fall 2010 semester;
- have carried a full-time course load for at least the fall 2010 semester and plan a full-time load for the spring 2011 semester;
- have applied, or are in the process of applying, to at least one of the competitive colleges on the JKCF web site by the end of December 2010;
- have significant unmet financial need, as defined by JKCF: By JKCF definition, unmet financial need has two components: (i) Education costs that are appreciably greater than the total amount of other scholarships or grant awards, and (ii) insufficient student and family income to meet educational costs. Students receiving full funding for their four-year degree will not be eligible for this scholarship. One possible indicator of financial need is that the applicant received need-based aid while attending a two-year college. Parents of dependent students must be willing to complete the financial information form.
- have filed, or are willing to soon file, a 2010-2011 FAFSA and submit your Student Aid Report (SAR),
- have parents who are willing to complete financial information forms, if you are a dependent student; [If parents are deceased, documentation must be provided.]
receive a score of either a 1 or a 2 on the JKC Financial Needs Estimator (Students who receive a score of 1 are considered much stronger candidates for nomination); [NOTE: The Financial Needs Estimator is not foolproof, but does give you an idea of the kinds of questions asked as part of the application process. The information entered on the Estimator is for your use only and the Estimator may be used more than once. Please review the Financial Needs Estimator on the JKCF website, following these directions.

- Click on each question and read the directions for that question very carefully. NOTE questions that apply to independent applicants and those that apply to all applicants.
- Make notes on the information you may need to look up in order to answer the questions accurately. NOTE that in each section you will be answering EITHER the question labeled Married Parents OR the two questions labeled Mother and Father.
- Once you have all the information you need, go back to the Financial Needs Estimator and answer ALL the applicable questions.
- One modification we recommend on the Financial Needs Estimator is for married applicants to include spouse’s income, even though the directions suggest otherwise. The results will probably be more accurate by including spouse’s income.
- Complete the Financial Needs Estimator. Keep a record of the information you entered and print out your score (for your own record.).]

- be willing to begin the online application process (on the Application Materials page of the JKCF website) by Monday, November 15, 2010; and
- be willing and able to obtain and submit the following documents, most of which need to be uploaded to the application in PDF format, before the deadline of December 20, 2010:
  - All official transcripts from all high schools and colleges attended,
  - Names and email addresses of two recommenders, in time for them to submit their letters of recommendation online,
  - Applicant 2009 tax forms,
  - Parents’ 2009 tax forms, if a dependent student,
  - Parent Financial Information Forms, if a dependent student,
  - Student Aid Report (SAR) from the 2010-2011 FAFSA, and
  - Complete online application (including background information and essays.)

Step 3
Next Steps
If you think you may be eligible and are interested in applying, please click here to answer several questions about your eligibility.

Keep in mind that, even if you are not eligible to apply for this scholarship, there are many other possibilities for financial aid to continue your education. Check out the Bucks Financial Aid page for information on the FAFSA and scholarships.

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