



Fact Sheet

MISSION

To provide tuition assistance to individuals active in a 12-step recovery program from alcohol or substance abuse who demonstrate financial need and are pursuing an academic or vocational education.

FOUNDED

The Next Step was founded in 2005 by a group of friends who saw a need to help individuals in recovery achieve their educational goals.

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

The Next Step has 13 volunteer board members and a Director of Development and Operations. The 2021 operating budget is \$276,370. Funds are typically raised through private donations, grants, and two fundraising events: the annual golf tournament and the annual scholarship dinner. The Next Step is GuideStar Platinum Certified.

ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP

Our recipients have a broad spectrum of educational goals which may include seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree or pursuing technical or vocational training. The maximum scholarship for undergraduate or technical programs is \$4,000, and \$3,000 for graduate programs. Scholarships fund tuition and book expenses and are paid directly to the educational institution.

Individuals applying for a scholarship have to meet a strict set of requirements and attend an interview with two board members. Applicants must be active in a 12-step recovery program, have one year of recovery by the April 1 application deadline, live in the St. Louis metropolitan area, be financially responsible, and meet all deadlines and requirements. Recipients are required to submit schedules and transcripts each semester, and must volunteer at one of the organization's fundraising events.

OUR VISION

We want to help all individuals in the St. Louis metropolitan area, who are in a 12-step recovery program and meet defined scholarship criteria, achieve all of their educational goals.

OUR VALUES

We believe education is one of the best ways to rise above addiction. We have respect for diversity: individuals of all backgrounds, ages, and educational interests are welcome to apply for a scholarship. We help individuals who are already helping themselves.

OUR IMPACT

2021-22 Academic Year

71

scholarship recipients

\$179,074

scholarships awarded

17-60

ages of our students

Since 2005


695


scholarships awarded


\$1,514,934

scholarship funding

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