



FINISH LINE DEGREE COMPLETION GRANT

a pilot grant program to help students with a back balance



Support for Missouri college students
to finish a degree

from

MISSOURI
SCHOLARSHIP & LOAN
FOUNDATION

INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

MISSOURI SCHOLARSHIP & LOAN FOUNDATION

ABOUT

The Missouri Scholarship & Loan Foundation (MSLF) was created in 2010 and is a tax-exempt, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation. MSLF was formed by MOHELA to help make higher education more accessible and affordable for Missouri families. By providing scholarships and low-cost student loans, MSLF supports persistence to graduation from institutions of higher education by Missouri citizens.

MISSION

Provide innovative products and services to help Missouri students, particularly those with insufficient financial resources, to prepare for, enter into and successfully complete higher education at Missouri institutions.

VISION

That all Missouri students have access to the financial assistance necessary to make higher education affordable.

Finish Line Degree Completion Grant

PROGRAM

The Finish Line Degree Completion Grant from MSLF is a pilot program designed to assist Missouri students who have left school and are prevented from re-enrolling and completing a degree due to an outstanding balance.

DETAILS

- ✦ For the 2019-20 year this program is offered to undergraduate students attending Missouri public 2-year and 4-year institutions and State Technical College as long as the school agrees to participate. The back balance of up to \$3,000 is paid half by MSLF and half by the participating school.
- ✦ Eligible students will be identified by the participating school.
- ✦ The recipient must be a Missouri resident and have a current or last previously known EFC of \$12,000 or less.
- ✦ The recipient must be within approximately 30 credit hours of degree completion.
- ✦ The recipient must meet academic progress standards as set by the participating school.
- ✦ Administered by the Financial Aid Office in accordance with program rules and applicable laws. Grants are the decision of the MSLF and the participating school.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- ✦ Eligible students must complete an application via Scholarship Central.
- ✦ Eligible students must prepare a degree completion plan with their school and then upload to Scholarship Central.
- ✦ Eligible students must upload a statement from the school's business office to Scholarship Central showing the outstanding balance and detailed expenses.



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Online Application Process

Your application must be submitted online via the Scholarship Central portal.
You can link to Scholarship Central at www.MyScholarshipCentral.org.

Once you set up a profile, you will be able to save information, apply for other scholarships and submit your application using the general online application.

1. Make sure you meet these criteria before applying:

- Missouri resident.
- Back balance of no more than \$3,000.
- Met other criteria set by the participating school.
- Have met with your school and prepared a degree completion plan. You will need to upload this to Scholarship Central.
- Have a bill showing your back balance from your institution. You will need to upload this to Scholarship Central.

2. Start at www.MyScholarshipCentral.org.

Click the blue box that says “apply now.” To create an account, enter a valid email address and password to create a secure user profile that will allow you to complete the General Application. The system will send you an email with a link that you must click to confirm your account before you can proceed.

3. Complete the General Application.

- Once you have confirmed your account password, log in again to Scholarship Central to complete the General Application.
- The General Application will ask for your contact information, GPA, college attending and other information. You will be asked to upload your most current transcript, which does not need to be an official transcript. If you cannot obtain a transcript at this time, please upload your degree completion plan so you can move forward to the next step.

4. Click on opportunity and select “Ours” then select the “Finish Line Degree Completion Grant”.

5. Upload the following items within the application:

- Degree completion plan prepared by you and your school.
- A current bill showing the outstanding back balance owed to your school.

6. Complete the process by signing that you understand the following disclosures:

By entering my full name below, I authorize Missouri Scholarship & Loan Foundation (MSLF) and its agents to examine, verify and discuss my academic and/or financial records and other information which applies to the consideration of this application. Additionally, I authorize the school I currently attend and the school I plan to attend (if different) to share information with MSLF regarding enrollment status, GPA, billing and payment records, and financial aid records. I certify that all answers are accurate and truthful to the best of my knowledge. I understand that decisions relative to my participation in this program are made by the Missouri Scholarship & Loan Foundation in reliance upon the truth and accuracy of my statements.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), as amended, affords you certain rights regarding your education records. FERPA generally prohibits schools from releasing education records or certain information contained in such records, such as your grades, billing and payment records, financial aid awards, and other student record information, to third parties. This consent to release records to MSLF applies to such records that may otherwise be protected under FERPA. Institutions may,

- continue on back -



pursuant to Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 [Public Law 115-141] and with explicit written consent from the student, share Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) information with a scholarship-granting organization. I understand and agree that this authorization will remain in effect until I notify my school and MSLF in writing to revoke it.

I understand that if this grant is used for educational expenses that are not required for my academic program, such as housing, meals or transportation, the grant may be considered taxable income. I understand that I should consult with a tax advisor if I have questions about my specific situation.

7. I understand that if I do not complete my degree or program, up to half of the past due balance may be reinstated by my school.

You will need to electronically sign this statement.


8. After completing the Finish Line Degree Completion Grant application, you may want to apply for other scholarships. Click “Opportunities” and “Recommended” to see if there are applications open for which you might be eligible. Scholarship Central includes applications for many other scholarships. You will need to apply for each of these scholarships individually after completing the General Application on Scholarship Central. Scholarship Central does not automatically apply for scholarships for you; you need to complete the questions for each scholarship to complete various applications.

PLEASE NOTE you can only apply for a scholarship while it is accepting applications. Most scholarships accept applications January through April. Check Scholarship Central frequently to find new scholarship opportunities.

QUESTIONS?

Email info@moslf.org Call 636.733.3716

Grants are available under the Finish Line Degree Completion Grant Program from Missouri Scholarship & Loan Foundation at the discretion of the institution and MSLF, in accordance with program rules and applicable laws. Requests will be considered as funding designated for this program remains available. Once all appropriate documentation has been completed and certified by the student's institution and the applicant, submitted to MSLF, and approved by MSLF, funds will be forwarded to the requesting institution for eligible students.



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