

Olene S. Walker Transition to Adult Living Scholarship

Application/Eligibility Information: 2017–2018

Application Deadline: **April 15, 2017, for Fall Semester 2017**
October 15, 2017, for Spring Semester 2018

Transition to Adult Living Scholarship: The Olene S. Walker Transition to Adult Living (TAL) Scholarship is designed to assist qualified youth who are transitioning out of state foster care or the unaccompanied refugee minor program to complete a post-secondary education program (degree or certificate) at one of the Utah System of Higher Education institutions. Private donors in partnership with the Utah Educational Savings Plan (UESP) sponsor the TAL Scholarship.

Selection: Applicants will be selected based on their strong desire to complete a post-secondary program of study, potential for academic success, and financial need.

Scholarship Amount: The maximum *yearly* TAL Scholarship award is \$5,000 for full-time enrollment (12 or more credit hours), \$3,750 for three-quarters time enrollment (9–11 hours), and \$2,500 for part-time enrollment (6–8 hours). The TAL Scholarship may be renewed depending on satisfactory academic progress, meeting scholarship requirements, and availability of funds. Students must re-apply each year to renew the TAL Scholarship.

Use of Funds: TAL Scholarship funds may be used to cover tuition, fees, books, supplies, and living expenses.

TAL Scholarship Exclusions:

1. The TAL Scholarship will not provide funding for Study Abroad or Exchange student programs.
2. No student seeking double majors or double bachelor's degrees will receive TAL Scholarship funding without prior approval from the scholarship sponsor. Students seeking double majors must submit a one-time, written request to the scholarship administrator indicating why a double major is an essential part of their education plan. Students requesting the scholarship for a double bachelor's degree must submit a one-time, written request making a case as to why earning double bachelor's degrees is of critical importance in achieving the scholar's education objectives. Requests must be submitted at least a semester in advance of starting such a program.
3. Students should not enroll in online classes without prior approval from the TAL Scholarship administrator.

To be eligible for consideration, the student must:

1. Submit documentation from the Utah Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) or the Utah Refugee Unaccompanied Minor Program to verify eligibility for the scholarship. For assistance, please contact Crystal Vail at 385-262-5044 or cvail@utah.gov. For Unaccompanied Minors, please have available your alien number.
2. Be under 26 years old at the time of application.
3. Be admitted to a Utah System of Higher Education institution, including Applied Technology Centers (ATCs) and Skill Centers.
4. Be a U.S. citizen or legal resident as well as a Utah resident.
5. Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form (available at www.fafsa.ed.gov) and qualify for a Pell Grant. The scholarship committee may review the circumstances of applicants who do not qualify for a Pell Grant and waive the requirement in specific instances.
6. Complete and submit the attached TAL Scholarship application form.

Students who are selected for the TAL Scholarship will be required to:

1. Enroll for part-time (6–8 credit hours), three-quarters time (9–11 credit hours), or full-time (12 or more credit hours). If attending an ATC or Skills Center, enroll for part-time (15–18 clock hours), three-quarters time (19–23 clock hours), or full-time (24 or more clock hours).
2. Maintain a 2.0 GPA (up to 59 credit hours) and a 2.5 GPA (60 credit hours or more) thereafter until graduation.
3. Complete 70% of credit hours. The TAL Scholarship can be discontinued at any time if the student fails to make academic progress.
4. Commit 5 hours or more per week of extra-curricular activities, such as college/university employment, service in a student leadership organization, or some other activity approved by the student's mentor.
5. Meet with an assigned mentor a minimum of once a month to review progress. TAL Scholarship funds will be disbursed to the student monthly after meeting with the mentor.
6. Complete monthly progress reports with each professor, and then submit those reports to the mentor during the monthly meeting.

Olene S. Walker Transition to Adult Living Scholarship Application: Fall 2017–Spring 2018

Complete the following information:

Full Name (print):		
Address (print):		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Telephone:	E-mail Address:	
Date of Birth:	Gender: M F	Marital Status:
WIOA Counselor or Higher Ed Navigator (if applicable):		
Counselor Phone:	Counselor E-mail:	

1. Are you a U.S. citizen or a legal resident of the U.S.? Yes No

2. Are you a Utah resident? Yes No

*If **no** to questions 1 and/or 2, please resolve before submitting the application. If you are a refugee or immigrant and said **yes** to questions 1 and/or 2, contact your institution to ensure they have the needed documents to verify your resident status before submitting the application.*

3. Have you taken the ACT? Yes No

- If **yes**, please submit your scores with this application.

- If **no**, have you taken the assessment/placement test at your institution? Yes No

If you have not taken the ACT, you must take your school's assessment/placement test before submitting the application. Please contact your school's counseling office for information about this test.

4. Have you applied for federal aid by completing the FAFSA form for 2017–2018? Yes No

- If **yes**, were you awarded a Pell Grant? Yes No

- If **no**, you must apply for federal aid before submitting this application.

5. Did you list the college/university you will attend on the FAFSA form? Yes No

*If **no**, send your FAFSA form to the institution by accessing your record online at www.fafsa.ed.gov or by calling 1-800-433-3243. You must submit a FAFSA form to be considered for this scholarship.*

6. Name the last high school you attended: _____

- Did you graduate? Yes No

- If **yes**, what year? _____

- If **no**, did you complete a GED? Yes No

- If **yes**, what year? _____ Where? _____

7. Name the college, university, or training program where you have been accepted:

8. Have you attended another institution of higher education? Yes No

- If **yes**, where? _____

- How many college credits have you earned? _____

Your official transcript must be submitted to the institution's transcript office, and you must also request an evaluation of your transcript before submitting the application.

9. Indicate your intended major _____ and degree _____

10. Select whether you plan to enroll:

Full-time (12 or more credits)

Three-quarters time (9–11 credits)

Part-time (6–8 credits)

11. List high school or community activities you participate in:

12. List your most recent employment experiences:

Date(s)	Company	Job Title	Hours per Week

Please attach the following documents to your application. An application missing any of the following documents is considered incomplete and will not be approved.

1. ___ Documentation from the Utah Division of Child and Family Services or the Utah Unaccompanied Refugee Minor Program indicating eligibility for the scholarship. For help, please contact Crystal Vail at DCFS: 385-262-58044 or cvail@utah.gov
2. ___ A **typed**, double-spaced personal statement of 1 to 2 pages written by the applicant. Your personal statement should accomplish the following:
 - Introduce yourself—write about your talents and areas of interest. Discuss your work ethic and your ability to set and complete goals.
 - Describe your educational background, the challenges you have faced in completing your education, and what you are doing to overcome these challenges.
 - Describe your interests and goals in pursuing post-secondary education.
3. ___ One or more letters of recommendation from someone who knows you and who can address your academic promise, maturity, perseverance (such as a teacher, counselor, caseworker, employer, or foster parent, but not a friend).
4. ___ Schedule a meeting with an advisor at the institute you are planning to attend to develop a course plan (or educational plan) showing the courses you need to take each semester to complete your certificate or degree. This plan must be completed with an advisor and submitted with the scholarship application.
5. ___ High school transcript and, if applicable, college transcript.
6. ___ ACT scores or indicate that you have taken your school's assessment/placement test. Your school will forward test scores to the scholarship committee.

Please read the statement below and sign on the line provided:

I certify that the information I have provided is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I give permission for the information in this application to be shared with the TAL Scholarship committee, the institution where I have been accepted, and the mentor who will be assisting me. I also give permission for the TAL Scholarship administrator to access my transcripts at any high school or higher education institution that I have attended or currently attend. I also give permission for the Department of Workforce Services (DWS) and Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) to release/disclose information to the TAL Scholarship committee regarding my WIOA/ETV funding and DCFS assistance being provided, if applicable.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Send completed application and attached documents to: Crystal Vail, Department of Human Services, Child and Family Services, 195 N 1950 W Salt Lake City, UT 84116. If you have questions about completing this form, contact Crystal Vail at cvail@utah.gov or 385-262-5044. **The application must be postmarked or emailed no later than April 15, 2017, for Fall 2017–Spring 2018, or by October 15, 2017, for Spring Semester 2018.**