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THE
Steppingstone
FOUNDATION
Summer Opportunities Fund

Dear Steppingstone Scholar,

We are very excited to hear that you are taking advantage of a summer opportunity. We believe that participating in summer opportunities will strengthen your candidacy as an applicant at a four-year college.

Steppingstone is pleased to offer a program that may provide funding to Scholars who participate in such opportunities. We have included in this letter a funding application form. This is a selective process with three application deadlines a year. After each deadline, it will take two to three weeks for the decision committee to determine funding awards. Therefore, we encourage early applications. The deadlines for this year are February 20, March 20, and April 17.

Completed applications should be directed to the following address:

The Steppingstone Foundation
Attn: Andrew Martland
Summer Opportunities Fund
155 Federal Street, Suite 800
Boston, MA 02110

Or via fax: (617) 423-6303.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at amartland@tsf.org (617) 423-6300 ext. 279.

Sincerely,

Andrew Martland
Support Services Associate

APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND FUNDING GUIDELINES:

The objective of this funding program is to help Steppingstone Scholars secure funding to participate in summer opportunities that will strengthen their candidacy as applicants to four-year colleges.

Application Requirements

High school Scholars who are eligible for Support Services may apply for funding through Steppingstone. Scholars may apply more than once, **but may receive funds for only one summer program during their tenure as a Scholar. Scholars may receive funding of up to \$2,000 or 75% of the cost of the program (whichever figure is the lesser amount).** Since this process is selective and funds are limited, we encourage early applications. The deadlines for this year are February 20, March 20, and April 17.

Funding Agreement

Scholars who are selected to receive funding must sign an acceptance letter. They will also be asked to provide a check or money order (made payable to summer opportunity provider) for the difference between the cost of the program and the Steppingstone funds. Steppingstone will cut a check for the amount of the funding, and will mail both checks with a cover letter to the provider. Scholars who receive funds from Steppingstone will agree to (1) complete an evaluation of the program in which they participated, and (2) participate in a panel and share their program experience with other Scholars. Highlights from feedback or panel participation may be used in Steppingstone newsletters and communication with funders.

Completed applications and questions about this funding opportunity should be directed to: **The Steppingstone Foundation, Summer Opportunities Fund, Attn: Andrew Martland, 155 Federal Street, Suite 800, Boston, MA 02110.** Additional application forms are available via email.

INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICANT CHECKLIST:

When completing application forms, please write legibly. Write your legal name on every form, and be sure to sign and date those forms that require your signature.

Instructions: To apply for funding from Steppingstone, you must complete the following:

- The application form by any of the three deadlines: February 20; March 20; or April 17, 2009.
- Attach a description of the summer opportunity (e.g. brochure, print out from website)
- Attach an essay of 250 words clearly describing the connection between this summer opportunity and improving your candidacy as an applicant to four-year colleges
- Attach a copy of your most up-to-date academic record/transcript

The Steppingstone Foundation is an equal opportunity organization and will not discriminate against any individual, employee, or applicant for funding on the basis of race, color, marital status, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, or handicap, as defined by law.

