



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

FOR GOOD, FOREVER, FOR SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

PO Box 1772 • 1800 W Boulevard • Marion, IL 62959

www.sicf.org • 618-997-3700

2020 SCHOLARSHIP

M07 – MERWIN AND VILLA SPENCER SCHOLARSHIP

Established 2018

Merit

Due Date: March 27, 2020

Typical Award: \$3,000+ for 4 years

In honor of her parents, Lila Spencer Neilsen has established the Merwin and Villa Spencer Scholarship Fund. Beginning in the spring of 2019, this fund will provide a 4 year scholarship for a college bound Murphysboro High School Students.

Villa Spencer, born in Alto Pass and raised in Murphysboro, was a kindergarten teacher at the Longfellow School in the 1940's, 50's and 60's. Merwin Spencer was born in Oraville, IL in 1892 and died in 1970. He worked as a dispatcher and telegraph agent for the railroad.

Lila honors the work of Merwin and Villa Spencer in their community through the support of a Murphysboro student in pursuit of academic growth.

ELIGIBILITY

- Murphysboro High School senior, continuing education as a freshman at a 4 year college or university
- Demonstrated academic achievement
- Exhibits character, ability, and potential

REQUIREMENTS

- Recommendation letters from each of the following:
 - Teacher
 - Community Member
- Essay, 500 words or less on following topic:
 - What are my goals and how I plan to achieve them
- Describe community involvement, services performed and civic participation
- Listing of:
 - Academic Awards/Honors
 - Clubs/Societies/Organizations



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2020 Scholarship Program Guide & Application

The Southern Illinois Community Foundation (SICF) invites you to apply for scholarships.
Applications must be received by the deadline date.

Application Checklist

- ☐ **Complete answers to every question.** If the question does not apply to you or your situation write “not applicable” or “N/A” as appropriate.
- ☐ Type or fill out the application in **ink** (PRINT). Do not write in pencil.
- ☐ Do not send applications in plastic folders or use staples.
- ☐ Detach this cover letter before submitting your application.
- ☐ Send application and all required attachments together. Paper clip each completed application and required attachments together. **No staples please.**
- ☐ Please put all applications in one large envelope, do not fold.
- ☐ Applications may be mailed (post marked by no later than due date) or emailed (received by midnight on due date)

Exceptions to the provision in this program guide will be at the discretion of SICF or the selection committee.

Scholarship awards will only be paid to the schools, not to individuals or bookstores. Scholarships are for tuition only and at accredited schools. You must be a full time student unless otherwise indicated in the scholarship requirements.

Eligibility Criteria

Every scholarship is different. Please check the list of available scholarships to make sure that you meet the criteria and different requirements of the scholarship(s) for which you are applying and the deadline dates.

Southern Illinois Community Foundation requires an application form for each scholarship you are applying for and each application must clearly identify the scholarship. Make sure that you read the required attachments for each scholarship; certain scholarships require additional information and have different deadline dates.

If the information you submit on your application, changes after being awarded a scholarship, your application can be re-evaluated to determine if the changes would have affected the outcome. Changes in GPA, class rank, receipt of other major scholarships and changes in the major or school that is being attended can have significant impact on the scoring of your application. Final determination of award payout will be made based on the completion and submission of the Award Request Form. Your educational institution will be required to attest to your enrollment/attendance, before the award will be paid.

Late and incomplete applications may be penalized in the scoring process at the discretion of the selection committee. Deadlines may be extended at the discretion of SICF or the selection committee.

If candidates do not meet minimum requirements or the scoring of the applications reflects low or questionable qualifications, SICF or the selection committee may elect not to award a scholarship. The publishing of this application nor the submission of an application, in no way guarantees the award of a scholarship. Candidates are required to supplement their scholarship application when information changes (ie. Change in school, change in class rank, change in GPA, failure to graduate from high school).

Make a copy to keep for your records.

Questions Please call: (618) 997-3700 or e-mail: info@sicf.org

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

In addition to a completed application form for each scholarship, each application must contain the following and in the order listed:

- Completed application form for each scholarship.

- Send only pages 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the application with your required attachments.
- Three and only three CURRENT letters of recommendation.
 - They can be from teachers, professors, guidance counselors, or non-academic references who are not relatives.
 - At least one letter should address your character and one should address your scholastic potential.
 - Please do not include award certificates .
 - **If letters are not current you may be disqualified.**
- An OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT from your present or most recently attended school.
- High School Students – enclose a copy of your ACT and/or SAT score report if not listed on your transcript.
- Please submit official cost of attendance figures (tuition only) for your school, either on letterhead or website screen print.
- Be sure to check the scholarship list before submitting your application. Some scholarships require that you include additional information other than what is listed above.
- All scholarship applications must be complete and submitted with all the required information in the order listed above to the Southern Illinois Community Foundation.

Paper clip each completed application and required attachments together.

Put all applications in one large envelope, do not fold. No staples please.

We may not accept anything mailed separately or after the deadline date.

Incomplete applications may not be considered

Return to:

Southern Illinois Community Foundation - Scholarships
 PO Box 1772
 Marion, IL 62959
 Phone (618) 997-3900

www.sicf.org



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2020 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Complete one application for each scholarship for which you are applying

PART 1: SCHOLARSHIP NAME

PART 2: APPLICANT INFORMATION – provide the following information where applicable.

Applicant's Name: _____ Gender: male ☐ female ☐
Last: _____ First: _____ Middle: _____
Street Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
County of Residence: _____ U.S. Citizen? Yes _____ No _____
Home phone: _____ Mobile: _____
E-mail Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

PART 3: FAMILY INFORMATION – provide the following information where applicable.

Father/Stepfather/Guardian: _____ Place of
Name: _____ Employment: _____

☐ Same Address as above

Street Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
County of Residence: _____ U.S. Citizen? Yes _____ No _____
Home phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Mother/Stepmother/Guardian: _____ Place of
Name: _____ Employment: _____

☐ Same Address as above

Street Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____

County of Residence: _____ U.S. Citizen? Yes _____ No _____

Home phone: _____ Mobile: _____

Number of members in household (including applicant): _____

Number of members in household (including applicant) attending
college during 2020-2021 academic year: _____

Who is helping finance your education? _____

PART 4: ACADEMIC INFORMATION (Please answer all questions that apply to you)

High School Attended: _____ Graduation Date: _____

Current Cumulative High School GPA: _____ High School Rank (number or decile): _____

Point system used for GPA: _____

____ Recipient of a G.E.D. Year received _____

____ College Undergraduate at _____

College GPA _____

College/University/Vocational School that you plan to attend in the fall of this year:

Address of College/University/Vocational School: _____

Have you been formally accepted? ____ Yes ____ No

Academic level as of next year (Freshman; Sophomore; etc.) _____

Intended Major/Field of Study _____

For Medical Students MCAT Score _____

PART 5: Financial Profile

No financial information required for this scholarship.

PART 6: Applicant Profile

List any school, community and church activities which you have been involved in the last four years. Be sure to include leadership roles. Make additional copies of this page if extra space is needed.

This page lists my: ___ High School Activities ___ College Activities ___ Other Activities

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

	FR	SO	JR	SR

COMMUNITY AND CHURCH ACTIVITIES

	FR	SO	JR	SR

WORK EXPERIENCE (List nature of work, position, dates of employment and average hours/week)

AWARDS AND HONORS

	FR	SO	JR	SR

I certify that the information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's Signature_____

Date_____

Address and phone number of college residence:

Phone:_____

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR APPLICATION IS COMPLETE.

INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS OR SEPARATE MAILINGS MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED.

CHECK DEADLINE DATES

Please mail to:

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LEARN MORE AT **SICF.ORG**



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