



“Late Bloomers” Scholarship Criteria

The *Late Bloomers Scholarship* was established by Shirley Bloom in 2014, who believed that education is a powerful tool which breaks down barriers and opens doors of opportunity. The purpose of *Late Bloomers Scholarship* is to help women, 25 years or older, who are re-entering college, with financial help to obtain an education that will in turn offer them the chance to secure employment, personal independence, and self-sufficiency.

The primary goal of the *Late Bloomers Scholarship* is to help women who have the greatest financial challenges to continue to move forward in their education and gain skills that will result in employment and self-sufficiency. Many achieve self-sufficiency at California State University Fullerton by earning a credential, a four-year degree or higher education in their chosen field. This scholarship is restricted to students attending California State University Fullerton.

The amount of the *Late Bloomers Scholarship* per student is \$2,500 per scholarship. Disbursement is divided up into two payments of \$1,250 per successful completion of academic units and with documentation as required in the application. The Scholarship may be renewable with the applicant reapplying per funding cycle. **Applications are due by May 8, 2017** and are to be submitted to:

YWCA of North Orange County
ATTN: Late Bloomers Scholarship Fund
215 E. Commonwealth Avenue, Suite E
Fullerton, CA 92832
E-mail: dmassethjones@ywcanoc.org

Or

California State University Fullerton
Fullerton Women’s - Adult Reentry Center
ATTN: Late Bloomers Scholarship Fund
800 State College Blvd. UH205-92831
Fullerton, CA 92831
E-mail: ceforgues@fullerton.edu

Criteria: To be eligible to apply for this scholarship, the applicant must:

- Be a woman, 25 years or older, re-entering college and who can demonstrate a critical need for financial assistance. Priority is given to women who have had more than a four year break in their education, or has gone back to school after a layoff, or a change of career or due to a change in family dynamics. A letter of support from a professor, academic advisor or employer that speaks to the applicant’s personal qualities is required.
- Exhibit a strong desire and the ability to complete a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree. Priority will be given to students whose responses to the questions on the application meet the criteria and completion of a brief essay explaining their current circumstances and their future goals.
- Be currently enrolled with a minimum of 9 academic units for an undergraduate student or 6 academic units for a graduate student in a program of study at California State University Fullerton.
- Have completed 30 units of college level work with a 3.0 grade point average based on a college transcript. Cumulative GPA and academic history is considered, but recent academic work that demonstrates the student’s current ability and motivation will take precedence.
- The following semester \$1,250 scholarship will be disbursed with evidence of enrollment in the second or next semester of 9 units or more with unofficial transcripts.
- Provide a progress report at 6 months after receiving the award on achievements gained in the funded first cycle including GPA, Internship experience, and/or other indicators that demonstrate progress towards the academic goals.

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The mission of the YWCA of North Orange County is to eliminate racism, empower women and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. We accomplish our mission by addressing the changing needs of women. Through strategic partnerships, we equip individuals to achieve and maintain social, physical, financial, intellectual and spiritual well-being.