



Helen M. McLoraine Figure Skating Scholarship Program



THE PROGRAM

The Pioneer Fund has established a scholarship program to assist eligible current and former amateur and professional ice skaters who dedicated their lives to skating and now wish to pursue a college education. Scholarships are offered each year for full-time undergraduate study at an accredited institution of the student's choice.

The Pioneer Fund is a foundation of the late Helen M. McLoraine. Helen established The Pioneer Fund, a private family foundation, in the 1960s, to continue her life long tradition of support to the types of projects and organizations to which she had contributed throughout her lifetime and now through her estate. Helen, deeply influenced by her mother's dedication to philanthropy, became a generous benefactor to others with a focus on figure skating, higher education assistance, and medical research. Helen was a private person, frugal, kind and smart, who felt a serious responsibility to the community.

Although Helen continued to run her own private successful investment business throughout her lifetime, her most cherished pastime was the sport of figure skating and attended many competitions, events, and ice shows throughout the World each year. The door to Helen's apartment, which originally opened inward the way that most doors do, was changed to open out to the world. This was indicative of the way Helen embraced life and invited others to do the same. Helen passed away in January of 2003 doing one of the many things she enjoyed in life, watching young kids in figure skating rinks working to achieve their dreams.

This scholarship program is administered by Scholarship Management Services[®], a division of Scholarship America[®]. Scholarship Management Services is the nation's largest designer and manager of scholarship and tuition reimbursement programs for corporations, foundations, associations and individuals. Awards are granted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, age, gender, disability or national origin.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants to the scholarship program must -

- Be high school seniors or graduates or be current postsecondary undergraduates.
- Plan to enroll in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school for the entire 2012-2013 academic year.
- Self-attest that they have competed at least once in a U.S. Figure Skating qualifying competition at the novice or higher level in either the Mens, Ladies, Dance, or Pairs event.

Synchronized skating is not eligible.

AWARDS

If selected as a recipient, the student will receive an award of \$3,000, \$5,000 or \$7,000. A total of \$200,000 of scholarship awards will be granted. Awards are not renewable, but students may reapply to the program each year they meet eligibility requirements. In 2011, 143 applications were received and 40 scholarship awards were granted.

Awards are for undergraduate study only.

APPLICATION

Interested students must complete the application and mail it along with a current, complete transcript of grades to Scholarship Management Services postmarked no later than **February 18**. Grade reports are not acceptable. Online transcripts must display student name, school name, grade and credit hours earned for each course, and term in which each course was taken. Documentation showing the applicant has competed at the novice or higher level in a U.S. Figure Skating qualifying competition and pages one and two of most recently filed IRS 1040 tax form where the applicant is claimed as a federal tax exemption also need to be sent with the application.

Applicants will receive acknowledgment of receipt of their application. If an acknowledgment card is not received within three weeks, applicants may call Scholarship Management Services to verify that the application has been received.

Applicants are responsible for gathering and submitting all necessary information. Instructions for completing the Financial Data section of the application are included. Applications are evaluated on the information supplied; therefore, answer all questions as completely as possible. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated. All information received is considered confidential and is reviewed only by Scholarship Management Services and the Pioneer Fund selection committee.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of academic record, demonstrated leadership and participation in school and community activities, honors, work experience, statement of goals and aspirations, unusual personal or family circumstances, essays, and an outside appraisal. Financial data is reviewed to determine the amount of the award.

Selection of finalists is made by Scholarship Management Services and the Pioneer Fund committee will select recipients. All applicants agree to accept the decision as final.

Applicants will be notified in June. Not all applicants to the program will be selected as recipients. Students may reapply to the program each year they meet eligibility requirements.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Management Services processes scholarship payments on behalf of the Pioneer Fund. Payments are made in equal installments on August 15 and December 30. Checks are mailed to each recipient's home address and are made payable to the school for the student.

OBLIGATIONS

Recipients have no obligation to the Pioneer Fund. They are, however, required to notify Scholarship Management Services of any changes in address, school enrollment, or other relevant information and to send a complete transcript when requested. A list of scholarship award recipients will be forwarded to U.S. Figure Skating for their media purposes.

REVISIONS

The Pioneer Fund reserves the right to review the conditions and procedures of this scholarship program and to make changes at any time including termination of the program.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions regarding the scholarship program should be addressed to:

Helen M. McLoraine Figure Skating Scholarship Program
Scholarship Management Services
One Scholarship Way
Saint Peter, MN 56082

Telephone: (507) 931-1682

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FINANCIAL DATA SECTION OF THE APPLICATION

The Financial Data section of the application should be completed by parents, guardians, **or** by the applicant if independent. Independent is defined as one who is **not** claimed as a dependent by the parent/guardian for tax purposes. Information should be from a completed tax return or based on estimated information to be filed with the IRS.

1. **State of Residence** is the state where the parents and/or (independent) applicant reside and pay state income tax.
2. **Adjusted Gross Income** can be found on IRS FORM 1040 and is gross income reduced by specific adjustments allowed by law.
3. **Total Federal Tax Paid** includes the total amount of **federal** income tax to be paid as reported on IRS FORM 1040. This is **not** the amount withheld from employee's paychecks. (The amount withheld should be adjusted by any refund or additional taxes due.) Do **not** report state income tax.
4. **Total Income** of parent(s) should be reported individually for both parents if applicant is a dependent student, or by the applicant if independent. If applying as a dependent student, provide information for both natural parents, when possible. **If the student resides with only one parent**, financial information **must** be received from the parent who claims the child as a dependent for tax purposes. If a parent has remarried, the spouse's information is required if the spouse is a legal guardian of the student, or claims the student as a dependent, or the student is included in the spouse's benefit plan. **If necessary, two Financial Data sections may be submitted by the student.** A copy of the Financial Data section may be made in order for one to be completed by each parent.
5. **Untaxed Income and Benefits** include any other income or benefits not included in the adjusted gross income figure. Do not include untaxed contributions to retirement plans.
6. **Medical and Dental Expenses** include only those expenses not paid by insurance. Do not include premium payments.
7. **Total Cash, Checking, Savings, Cash Value of Stocks, etc.**, include liquid assets that can be used for educational expenses. **Do not include** IRA, 401k, or other retirement plan funds.
8. **Total number of family members living in the household** and primarily supported by the reported income may include:
 - the applicant
 - the applicant's parents
 - other children living in the household
 - dependent college students living away from home
 - other people who live in the household and receive more than half of their support from the reported incomeIndependent students should only report those individuals who are supported by the reported income.
9. **Marital status** is the current status of the person from whom the financial information is submitted.
10. **Of the total number of family members on line 8, number of students attending college** includes family members attending a two- or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school at least half-time. Include the applicant in this number. Do not include parents.

NOTE: Any exceptions to providing financial information as instructed above must be submitted to Scholarship Management Services in writing.