



## Shelley Reed Memorial Scholarship Application

Shelley Reed, of Wayne, Maine, was passionate about the education of all children. She was a teacher and school counselor before she became an Education Specialist at the Maine Department of Education where she focused on the areas of truancy, dropout, alternative education, school counselors, homeless education, expelled and suspended youth, liaison to military, Maine Afterschool Network, Juvenile Justice Advisory Group. She was actively engaged in the Maine Charter School movement and served as President of the Maine Alliance of Public Charter Schools cementing her belief that all children could achieve. She served as Co-Chair of the Governor's Task Force to Engage all Students convened under Governor Baldacci's term and addressing the needs of students aged 16-24 neither in school or work.

Shelley served as a Board Member of Syntiro, a not for profit located in Augusta (previously Readfield) for more than ten years.

In honor of Shelley's memory, the Syntiro Board of Directors has established the Shelley Reed Memorial Scholarship. This \$1,000 annual scholarship will be awarded to a youth in foster care who aspires to postsecondary education. The award will be announced in late May each year and awarded to the institute of higher education in the fall immediately following graduation from high school.

All Maine youth in foster care during their senior year in college are eligible. The following application must be submitted no later than May 15 each year. The application and two letters of recommendation (teacher, school counselor, JMG specialist, case manager, employer, etc.) should be submitted to Syntiro ([office@syntiro.org](mailto:office@syntiro.org)) with Shelley Reed Scholarship Application in the subject line.

## Application

To be eligible for Syntiro's Shelley Reed Memorial Scholarship you must: (1) be in foster care during the period of your senior year in high school; and (2) be accepted to an in-state Maine public or private institution of higher education.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED:** A JMG Specialist or DHHS Caseworker signature is required here to confirm that you are a current youth in foster care:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Role: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Essay

***In no more than two pages, please share why your journey to college and beyond will benefit from this \$1000 scholarship.***

The following prompts may be used to guide your writing: What are your academic goals? Describe contributions you have made or will make to your community. Who or what has served as an influence or inspiration to you? In what ways has foster care assisted you in overcoming barriers?

**Please email your completed application and the required essay to [office@syntiro.org](mailto:office@syntiro.org) NO LATER THAN May 15, 2025.**