

## Ellie and Michael Agresta Scholarship 2019-20 Guidelines

### Scholarship Information

The Ellie and Michael Agresta Scholarship was established at the Community Foundation in 2010 by Ellie and Michael Agresta to provide annual post-secondary educational scholarships for qualified students. The purpose of this scholarship is to fund motivated students who may not have the opportunity to attend college without additional financial resources.

### Eligibility Criteria

Graduating senior (or graduate of) Hilton Head Island public or private high school who has been accepted and will be attending (or is attending) a South Carolina accredited public college or university, or a Georgia public university located in Savannah full-time, who is a U.S. citizen and legal resident of Beaufort County, **demonstrating financial need**, who has shown academic achievement. Must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale, or the equivalent on an alternate scale. Should have a score equivalent to or better than the state average on tests designed to measure aptitude for college (e.g., SAT, ACT). Must demonstrate academic accomplishments along with involvement in community and/or extra-curricular activities. ***Preference may be given for motivated students who demonstrate financial hardships and who may not have the opportunity to attend college without additional financial resources.***

### Application Requirements

1. A completed [online scholarship application](#). This scholarship considers financial need in addition to other criteria, be certain to fill out the online application questions pertaining to financial need.
2. Typed essay (approximately 500 words) explaining how this scholarship will assist the applicant in achieving academic and career goals, saved as a separate document and uploaded into the eGrant application.
3. An official copy of the applicant's most recent transcript(s) showing grades for at least two years, ***sent via third party email*** from a school counselor or teacher.
4. Information from the parent's income tax return for the last two years.
5. **Student Aid Report** from the FAFSA - showing Expected Family Contribution or a written statement explaining why Federal Aid was not applied for, uploaded into the online application.
6. A completed financial need form, available for download in online application, for applicants and re-applicants.
7. Three recommendation letters from adult non-family members, ***sent via third party email*** from each reference.
8. Selected finalists must attend a personal interview with the Ellie and Michael Agresta Scholarship Advisory Committee.

|                         |  |                     |  |
|-------------------------|--|---------------------|--|
| <b>Scholarship Type</b> | Undergraduate/Post Secondary                                 | <b>How to Apply</b> | <a href="http://www.cf-lowcountry.org/scholarships">www.cf-lowcountry.org/scholarships</a> |
| <b>Award</b>            | Varied, may have multiple recipients                         | <b>Deadline</b>     | March 25, 2019   |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>    | May be renewable, 3 additional years, reapplication required |                     |  |

### Selection of Recipients

The Scholarship Advisory Committee shall select recipients (subject to approval by the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry Board of Directors). Scholarship funds will be awarded to cover educational costs for: tuition/fees, room and board, and books. Specific costs to be covered will be at the discretion of the Scholarship Advisory Committee. Scholarships are awarded without regard to race, sex, religion, age, or national origin.

### Announcement of Scholarship Awards

The Community Foundation of the Lowcountry will send an official award letter and related information to each recipient. A public announcement of scholarship recipients may be arranged by the Community Foundation of the Lowcountry. Recipients may be further recognized through Awards Day programs at their schools.

### Distribution of Scholarship Funds

The Community Foundation will advise all scholarship recipients of the distribution method of scholarship awards and review the students' responsibilities to the Scholarship Program they have been selected for. These responsibilities may include sending transcripts at the end of the year for renewable scholarships, and providing notification of all address changes or changes in student status or enrollment. In accordance with the Community Foundation's policy, scholarship funds will be paid in the form of a check made payable to the college/school of the scholarship recipient. Checks will be mailed to the college/school. Notification of payment will be sent to the scholarship recipient.