

IMPACTING EDUCATION FOR WOMEN



MAY 2024

What We Do

The **Blackhawk Scholarship Fund (BSF)** is a 501c(3) nonprofit, all-volunteer organization established in 2003 to increase education opportunities for college-bound women in financial need.

BSF offers college scholarships to female high school and community college students transferring to four-year universities. Scholarships are awarded annually based on academic excellence, financial need and community involvement.

Our scholarship recipients have gone on to attend:

- Boston University
- Brown
- Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
- Creighton
- Duke
- Princeton
- Santa Clara University
- Stanford
- Tulane
- UC Berkeley
- UC Davis
- UCLA
- UC Santa Barbara
- UC San Diego
- USC
- Yale

The IMPACT of your GIVING

Thanks to YOU the Blackhawk Scholarship Fund has been able to provide support to Contra Costa County women since its start in 2003.

\$461,125

Amount of college scholarships BSF awarded to women in financial need

113

Women were able to further their college education through BSF Scholarships

The Rising Cost of College

Why your donations matter



The cost of attendance at colleges continues to rise making finances one of the determining factors on whether a student will be able to attend college.

In addition to rising tuition prices, paying for housing, food, transportation, books and other school-related fees usually adds thousands of dollars to college expenses.

2024-2025 Cost of Attendance	UC Berkeley	Stanford
Tuition	\$16,522	\$65,127
Housing & Food	\$21,508	\$21,315
Student Fees	\$4,050	\$2,400
Books & Supplies	\$1,132	\$825
Travel and Personal	\$5,362	\$3,225
TOTAL COST	\$48,574	\$92,892

Information obtained from UC Berkeley & Stanford website

“The Blackhawk Scholarship Fund has been a true blessing. They have gone above and beyond expectations, even sending treats during my first semester, which brought me immense warmth and joy. This scholarship lessened the financial strain on my family, allowing me to solely focus on my studies, worrying less about finances, and ensuring that I can pursue my academic aspirations without incurring debt, or working. The Blackhawk Scholarship Fund has paved the way for an unburdened educational journey, empowering me to chase my academic aspirations fearlessly and without distraction.”

Sheila McKinney
2023 Scholarship Recipient
Howard University



bwscholarshipfund.com



TAX Tax ID# 41-2082902



bwscholarshipfund@gmail.com

Education Pays

College Board's Trends in Higher Education reports that 2021 median earnings of bachelor's degree recipients who were over 25 with no advanced degree and working full time were \$29,000 (65%) higher than those of high school graduates. Additionally, unemployment rates and households living in poverty are generally 2x and 3x times higher, respectively, for individuals with only a High School Diploma vs a Bachelor's Degree. Individuals with higher levels of education earn more and are more likely to be employed and have job benefits like retirement plans and health insurance. Adults with more education are also more likely to be engaged citizens and less likely to rely on public assistance.

- Information obtained from research.collegeboard.org/trends

High School Diploma

\$44,300

Bachelor's Degree

\$73,300

“ Without the opportunity granted to me from the Blackhawk Scholarship Fund, it would not have been possible for me to attend Saint Mary's. This scholarship helped me financially by helping cover both my tuition and textbook costs. Most importantly, the BSF allowed me to break generational barriers by helping me become the first person in my family to ever attend college. ”

Lizeth De La Cruz
2023 Scholarship Recipient
St Mary's College

WE THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN HELPING US PROVIDE
SCHOLARSHIPS

“ I've always wanted to study at Columbia University, but with the financial burden that comes with college, I wasn't sure if I would be able to make it to New York. However, with the help of BSF, my family is able to afford my attendance at Columbia, and I am so grateful that I am able to pursue my academic goals and dreams here. ”

Shira Weiss-Ishai
2023 Scholarship Recipient
Columbia University

Your support achieves so much

Year after year, we are inspired by the achievements and aspirations of our scholarship recipients. Through your generosity, you impact their lives and help provide them with the support they need to continue to excel.

How can you help?

With your help, we can grant more scholarships and increase our impact.

Get Involved - BSF partners with organizations and individuals who are looking to make a difference in our community. We value your time and expertise and need volunteers. Join us by sending an email to bwscholarshipfund@gmail.com!

Donate - Cash, Check, Matching Corporate Funds - donations of any amount are always appreciated! Donate online at bwscholarshipfund.com/donatevolunteer.

Spread the Word - Know a deserving woman who needs a scholarship or a talented person who wants to help? Tell them to learn more about BSF at bwscholarshipfund.com.



Your donation increases access to education and changes lives