



of Metro Denver

# Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Scholarship Program

College scholarships for students who have participated in Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver programs.

Information & Support Packet for 2025-2026

**Applications are due Monday, December 1, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**

## INTRODUCTION

Girls Inc. of Metro Denver's mission is to inspire all girls to be strong, smart, and bold and its vision is a world in which every girl values her whole self, discovers her inner strengths, and achieves her goals. Girls are encouraged to see college as attainable and to set and achieve long-term educational goals. The Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Scholarship Program includes multiple endowed scholarship funds that make post-secondary education more accessible to Girls Inc. participants by offsetting financial costs, as well as inspire girls to pursue rewarding careers.

## HELEN M. MCLORAIN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Helen M. McLoraine Scholarship Fund was established in 2005 in memory of Helen McLoraine, a pioneer in the oil industry and a woman who embodied the Girls Incorporated mission of inspiring all girls to be strong, smart, and bold. By inspiring girls to be active in community service, strive for higher education, and gain advanced skills and knowledge they need to realize bright futures, they carry on Helen's legacy. The Scholarship fund provides competitive awards to girls who have participated in Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver programs. Each year the Scholarship fund awards a minimum of \$45,000.

## DYAN L. FOSS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In 2018, Charles and Sandra Foss established the Dyan L. Foss Scholarship Fund in memory of their daughter, Dyan Foss. Dyan was the Global Managing Director at CH2M and a Girls Inc. supporter committed to engaging girls in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). The scholarship fund provides an annual scholarship of \$5,000 to a high school girl planning to pursue higher education in a STEM degree field. The scholarship will challenge girls to be leaders and encourage their interests in STEM during their post-secondary years and in their future careers.

## LAREY PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP

Starting in 2024, Girls Inc. of Metro Denver has awarded the LaRey Peterson Scholarship. A \$5,000 LaRey Peterson Scholarship will be awarded to one 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade student who will be a first-generation college student. This scholarship was created in honor of LaRey Peterson, a life-long educator from Box Elder County, Utah. The scholarship was formed to allow prospective first-generation college students to get assistance with pursuing their post-high school education in any area of study.

## KENA CONTRERAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Since 2023, Girls Inc. of Metro Denver has awarded the Kena Contreras Memorial Scholarship. Kena was born in Mexico and moved to the U.S. at age 9. She proudly became a naturalized citizen in 1987 and self-funded her undergraduate degree in Justice Studies and her MBA. Kena's career had several chapters including being a Foster Care Advocate for the Arizona State Supreme Court, a Pharmaceutical Sales Representative, and the last and most fulfilling was as a teacher for grades 4-6. Kena made a difference in many people's lives. The Kena Contreras memorial scholarship is to honor her memory, inspire others to pursue their dreams through education and to make a difference in the

lives of those who receive the scholarship. \$5,000 will be awarded to two current 12th grade students planning to enroll in a 4-year college in fall 2026. The award is open to any area of post-secondary study.

## TIFFANY K. PAYNE AND MATT MANN COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Starting in 2021, Girls Inc. of Metro Denver has awarded the Tiffany K. Payne and Matt Mann Scholarship to support a first-generation college student attending a Colorado Community College. This \$5,000 award will provide two years of funding (\$2,500 per year consecutively) to a current high school senior planning to enroll as a community college student in fall of 2026. The award is open to any area of post-secondary study.

## TRACIJIM FAMILY FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Starting in 2025, the TraciJim Family Fund, created by longtime Girls Inc. supporters Traci and Jim Peterson, awards one \$10,000 scholarship for a current high school student (any grade level) planning to pursue a STEM major in college and a STEM career. In addition, this fund will award one \$10,000 scholarship for a current college student in their second, third, or fourth year of college, or graduate study. This scholarship is designed to help current college students continue to pursue their post-secondary goals and complete their studies.

## CARYL MILLER COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Starting in 2025, the Caryl Miller College Scholarship will fund one \$5,000 scholarship for a current college student (any grade level, including graduate studies). This scholarship was made possible by Lori Palazzolo, Girls Inc. Board member, in honor of Caryl Miller.

## GIRLS INC. HEADQUARTERS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

11th and 12th grade students who are ALSO eligible for Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarships will be considered to be chosen to apply for Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarships.

Additional eligibility requirements for Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarships include:

Applicant has been a member of Girls Inc. for at least 2 years by the application deadline (December 1, 2025)

Applicant is a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, or eligible non-resident eligible for federal financial aid through FAFSA

Applicant has a GPA of 2.8 or higher

Applicant has not previously won a Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarship or has been awarded \$10,000 or less in Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarships

Girls Inc. of Metro Denver is able to submit a maximum of 5 high school applicants to be considered for Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarships. All eligible applicants who submit a completed application by the deadline will be informed whether or not they have been selected as a Girls Inc. Headquarters applicant by December 5, 2025. The scholarships below are available as part of the Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarship Program:

## GIRLS INC. HEADQUARTERS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

### LUCILLE MILLER WRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarship Program was created in 1992 when Lucille Miller Wright, a long-time supporter of Girls Inc., made a bequest from her estate to fund scholarships exclusively for young women members. Since 1993, more than \$8.6 million in scholarships have been awarded to Girls Inc. girls across North America. The purpose of the Scholarship Program is to make post-secondary education more accessible by offsetting the financial costs. The goal is to inspire members to succeed in school and to consider a broad range of career possibilities. The exact number of scholarship awards will be determined on an annual basis in amounts up to \$25,000.

### SUZANNE PATZMORE GIBBS COURAGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The goal of the Suzanne Patzmore Gibbs Scholarship (created in 2019) is to encourage young women who have participated in Girls Inc. programming to aspire to and matriculate at a college or university of their choice. Recipients of this award have demonstrated the courage to dream big and have a character consistent with that of Suzanne Patzmore Gibbs who was described as "a fierce advocate for all that is right and good in this world. She fought for women's voices before it was a popular thing to do. She was incredibly brave, and she stood up for what she believed in." Three \$25,000 awards will be made each year to 12th grade students.

### "SHE'S GOT MORE" POWERADE SCHOLARSHIPS

The "She's Got More" Scholarship, funded through our partnership with POWERADE, launched in 2024 and is awarded to Girls Inc. members who have demonstrated both a powerful Girls Inc. impact story and athletic achievement and involvement throughout their high school careers. The exact number of scholarship awards will be determined on an annual basis in amounts up to \$10,000 and will be made each year to 12th grade students.

## GIRLS INC. OF METRO DENVER AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

- Helen McLoraine Teen Leadership Scholarship
- Helen McLoraine Strong, Smart, and Bold Scholarship
- Helen McLoraine Collegiate Scholarship
- Dyan Foss Science, Technology, Math & Science (STEM) Scholarship
- LaRey Peterson Scholarship
- Kena Contreras Memorial Scholarship
- Tiffany K. Payne and Matt Mann Community College Scholarship
- TraciJim Family Fund STEM Scholarship
- TraciJim Family Fund College Completion Scholarship
- Caryl Miller College Scholarship

## GIRLS INC. HEADQUARTERS AVAILABLE SCHOLARSHIPS

- Lucille Miller Wright Scholarship
- Suzanne Patzmore Gibbs Courage Scholarship
- “She’s Got More” POWERADE Scholarship

## Application Process

Read and complete the application form and include with it the required materials for the scholarship for which you are applying. The Scholarship Selection Team will select awardees based on the following criteria:

- Community Service
- Demonstrated ability to handle responsibility and leadership
- Clarity of ideas and communication skills
- Strength of character
- Personal achievement and future plans and goals
- Depth of impact at Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver programs for the applicant

All applicants who submit a complete a written application by the deadline will be considered for an in-person interview for Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Scholarships. Interviews will be

conducted at Girls Inc. of Metro Denver on Saturday, February 7, 2026 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Applicants attending school out of state will need to be available during this time for an interview which will be conducted via Zoom or a similar program.

***\*If you received an award from the Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Scholarship Program in 2025, you may not apply again until 2027.\****

All completed paper applications must arrive in the mail or be hand delivered to the following address by December 1, 2025 before 5:00 p.m.

Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver  
Scholarship Program  
Attention: Sarah McGill  
1499 Julian Street  
Denver, CO 80204

## SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTIONS

### Helen McLoraine Teen Leadership Scholarship – \$5,000

Scholarships will be awarded to students currently enrolled in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade, who are current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver members AND:

- Are involved in community service and leadership activities
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher

#### Participation Recommendations:

- Have attended at least two high school activities or events (ex: Teen Saturday, Fall Break College Visit, Tutoring) *AND*
- Have participated in, or are currently participating in, at least one other Girls Inc. Class, club, or volunteer activity (ex: Girls Inc. class at your school, Eureka!, Bold Business, after-school volunteering)

#### How to Apply:

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicants first and last name in the header.*

1. Complete the application cover page.
2. Include a personal essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:
  - **Describe your future career goals. Why does this interest you? What steps have you taken to explore your career possibilities? (volunteer, intern, job shadow, etc.)**
  - **Where do you intend to pursue your post-high school education? What do you intend to study?**
  - **If received, how will you apply this scholarship toward your educational expenses? (tuition, books, etc.) What other sources of funding do you anticipate? How will this award make a difference in your ability to pursue/complete your degree?**
3. Include an essay, up to one page in length, to address the following questions:

**Describe your extracurricular activities OUTSIDE of Girls Inc. (school clubs, sports, work, community, or religious groups, etc.) Share your length of involvement and how these activities have impacted your personal growth. How have your experiences at Girls Inc. affected and/or inspired your involvement in these extracurricular activities?**
4. Include your official school transcript. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.
5. Include one letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope, or emailed to Sarah McGill at smcgill@gidenver.org from a staff member at your school (teacher, counselor, principal, advisor, etc.) Letters from relatives or Girls Inc. staff will not be accepted.

5. Ensure that you have a 2025-2026 GIMD membership application on file. If not, you must complete and submit it along with your scholarship application.
6. Submit all of your materials by the deadline.

### Helen McLoraine Strong, Smart, and Bold Scholarships – \$10,000

Scholarships will be awarded to students currently enrolled in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade, who are current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver members AND:

- Are involved in community service and leadership activities
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher

#### Participation Recommendations:

- Have attended at least two high school activities or events (ex: Teen Saturday, Fall Break College Visit, Tutoring) *AND*
- Have participated in, or are currently participating in, at least one other Girls Inc. Class, club, or volunteer activity (ex: Girls Inc. class at your school, Eureka!, Bold Business, after-school volunteering)

#### How to Apply:

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicants first and last name in the header.*

1. Complete the application cover page.
2. Include a personal essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:
  - **Describe your future career goals. Why does this interest you? What steps have you taken to explore your career possibilities? (volunteer, intern, job shadow, etc.)**
  - **Where do you intend to pursue your post-high school education? What do you intend to study?**
  - **If received, how will you apply this scholarship toward your educational expenses? (tuition, books, etc.) What other sources of funding do you anticipate? How will this award make a difference in your ability to pursue/complete your degree?**
3. Include an essay, up to one page in length, to address the following questions:

**Describe your extracurricular activities OUTSIDE of Girls Inc. (school clubs, sports, work, community, or religious groups, etc.) Share your length of involvement and how these activities have impacted your personal growth. How have your experiences at Girls Inc. affected and/or inspired your involvement in these extracurricular activities?**
4. Include an essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:



**Summarize your journey at Girls Inc. as a program participant and/or volunteer. How has Girls Inc. made a difference in your life? Describe the unique impact that your experiences at Girls Inc. have had on your life.**

5. Include your official school transcript. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.

6. Include one letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope, or emailed to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) from a staff member at your school (teacher, counselor, principal, advisor, etc.) Letters from relatives or Girls Inc. staff will not be accepted.

7. Ensure that you have a 2025-2026 GIMD membership application on file. If not, you must complete and submit it along with your scholarship application.

8. Submit all of your materials by the deadline. Helen McLoraine Collegiate Scholarship – \$10,000

Scholarship will be awarded to a student currently pursuing a higher education who has been a Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member within the past 8 years.

Additional Requirements:

- Currently enrolled full-time undergraduate student attending an accredited college or university
- Demonstrated community service and leadership skills
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher

How to Apply:

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicants first and last name in the header.*

1. Complete the application cover page.

2. Include a personal essay, up to four pages in length, to address the following questions:

- a. Describe how you are strong, smart, and bold.**
- b. How have you been involved as a leader in your community and what has that experience meant to you?**
- c. How will this scholarship help you to achieve your future plans and goals?**
- d. What personal achievement are you most proud of and why?**

3. Include your official school transcript. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.

4. Include two letters of recommendation in sealed envelopes, emailed to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) or uploaded via Google drive on the online application form from adults from your school, job, or community (teacher, counselor, principal, advisor, supervisor, mentor, etc.) Letters from relatives or Girls Inc. staff will not be accepted.

5. Provide your GIMD programming history.

6. Submit all of your materials by the deadline.

## Helen McLoraine Collegiate Scholarship – \$10,000

Scholarship will be awarded to a student currently pursuing a higher education who is a current Girls Inc. member or has been a Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member within the past 8 years.

Additional Requirements:

- Currently enrolled full-time undergraduate student attending an accredited college or university
- Demonstrated community service and leadership skills
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher

### How to Apply:

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicants first and last name in the header.*

1. Complete the application cover page.

2. Include a personal essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:

- **Describe your future career goals. Why does this interest you? What steps have you taken to explore your career possibilities? (volunteer, intern, job shadow, etc.)**
- **Where are you pursuing your post-high school education? What are you studying?**
- **If received, how will you apply this scholarship toward your educational expenses? (tuition, books, etc.) What other sources of funding do you anticipate? How will this award make a difference in your ability to pursue/complete your degree?**

3. Include an essay, up to one page in length, to address the following questions:

**Describe your extracurricular activities OUTSIDE of Girls Inc. (school clubs, sports, work, community, or religious groups, etc.) Share your length of involvement and how these activities have impacted your personal growth. How have your experiences at Girls Inc. affected and/or inspired your involvement in these extracurricular activities?**

4. Include an essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:

**Summarize your journey at Girls Inc. as a program participant and/or volunteer. How has Girls Inc. made a difference in your life? Describe the unique impact that your experiences at Girls Inc. have had on your life.**

5. Include your official school transcript. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.

6. Include one letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope, or emailed to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) from a staff member at your school (teacher, counselor, principal, advisor, etc.) Letters from relatives or Girls Inc. staff will not be accepted.

7. Submit all of your materials by the deadline.

## LaRey Peterson Scholarship – \$5,000

Scholarships will be awarded to students currently enrolled in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade, who are current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver members AND:

- Are involved in community service and leadership activities
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher
- Will be a first-generation college student

**\*Please note:** Applicants must meet all the eligibility criteria for the Helen McLoraine Scholarships, but **do NOT** need to receive a McLoraine Scholarship in order to be eligible for the LaRey Peterson Scholarship.

### How to Apply:

Submit a completed application for the Helen McLoraine Strong, Smart & Bold Scholarship by the scholarship deadline as outlined above, including: cover page, personal essays, letter of recommendation, school transcript. No additional application materials are required for this specific award.

## Dyan Foss STEM Scholarship – \$5,000

Scholarship will be awarded to a student interested in pursuing a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) field in post-secondary education. To qualify the participant must be a current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member and:

1. Have completed 150 hours of STEM programming at Girls Inc. of Metro Denver (this generally happens by participating in the Eureka! program).
2. Have participated in, or are currently participating in, at least one other Girls Inc. class or volunteer position (for example, Girls Inc. class at your school, Eureka!, Bold Business, after-school volunteering).

### Additional Requirements:

- Participated in community service and leadership activities
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher

**\*Please note:** Applicants must meet all the eligibility criteria for the Helen McLoraine Scholarships, but **do NOT** need to receive a McLoraine Scholarship in order to be eligible for the STEM Scholarship.

### How to Apply:

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicants first and last name in the header.*

1. Submit a completed application for the Helen McLoraine Strong, Smart & Bold Scholarship or Teen Leadership Scholarship by the scholarship deadline as outlined above, including: cover page, personal essays, letter of recommendation, school transcript.

2. Include an additional personal essay, up to one page in length, to address the following questions:

- a. What excites you about STEM?**
- b. What is your favorite STEM subject and why?**
- c. How will this scholarship help you to achieve your future plans and goals in STEM?**

### TraciJim STEM Scholarship – \$5,000

Scholarship will be awarded to a student interested in pursuing a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) field in post-secondary education. To qualify the participant must be a current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member and:

1. Be planning to pursue a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) major in post-secondary education.
2. Have participated in, or are currently participating in, at least one other Girls Inc. class or volunteer position (for example, Girls Inc. class at your school, Eureka!, Bold Business, after-school volunteering).

#### Additional Requirements:

- Participated in community service and leadership activities
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher

**\*Please note:** Applicants must meet all the eligibility criteria for the Helen McLoraine Scholarships, but **do NOT** need to receive a McLoraine Scholarship in order to be eligible for the STEM Scholarship.

#### How to Apply:

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicants first and last name in the header.*

1. Submit a completed application for the Helen McLoraine Strong, Smart & Bold Scholarship or Teen Leadership Scholarship by the scholarship deadline as outlined above, including: cover page, personal essays, letter of recommendation, school transcript.
2. Include an additional personal essay, up to one page in length, to address the following questions:

- d. What excites you about STEM?**
- e. What is your favorite STEM subject and why?**
- f. How will this scholarship help you to achieve your future plans and goals in STEM?**

### Tiffany K. Payne & Matt Mann Community College Scholarship – \$5,000

Scholarship will be awarded to a student planning to attend a Colorado Community College. To qualify the participant must be a current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member and be a current high school senior. Scholarship funds are \$2,500 per year for two consecutive years.

1. Are planning to attend a Colorado Community College starting in fall of 2025.

2. Have participated in, or are currently participating in, at least one Girls Inc. class or volunteer position (for example, Girls Inc. class at your school, Eureka!, Leadership Out Loud, after-school volunteering).

Additional Requirements:

- First-generation college student
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher

**\*Please note:** Applicants must meet all the eligibility criteria for the Helen McLoraine Scholarships, but **do NOT** need to receive a McLoraine Scholarship in order to be eligible for the Community College Scholarship.

How to Apply:

Submit a completed application for the Helen McLoraine Strong, Smart & Bold Scholarship by the scholarship deadline as outlined above, including: cover page, personal essay, letters of recommendation, school transcript, and GIMD program history. No additional application materials are required for this specific award. Please indicate first-generation college status on cover page.

TraciJim College Completion Scholarship – \$10,000

Scholarship will be awarded to a student currently pursuing a higher education who is a current Girls Inc. member or has been a Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member within the past 8 years.

Additional Requirements:

- Currently enrolled full-time undergraduate or graduate student attending an accredited college or university in your 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> year of undergraduate studies or pursuing a graduate degree
- Demonstrated community service and leadership skills
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher

**\*Please note:** Applicants must meet all the eligibility criteria for the Helen McLoraine Scholarships, but **do NOT** need to receive a McLoraine Scholarship in order to be eligible for the TraciJim College Completion Scholarship.

How to Apply:

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicants first and last name in the header.*

1. Submit a completed application for the Helen McLoraine Collegiate Scholarship by the scholarship deadline as outlined above, including: cover page, personal essays, letter of recommendation, school transcript. No additional materials are required for this specific award.

## Caryl Miller College Scholarship – \$5,000

Scholarship will be awarded to a student currently pursuing a higher education who is a current Girls Inc. member or has been a Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member within the past 8 years.

Additional Requirements:

- Currently enrolled full-time undergraduate or graduate student attending an accredited college or university
- Demonstrated community service and leadership skills
- Grade point average of 2.0 or higher

**\*Please note:** Applicants must meet all the eligibility criteria for the Helen McLoraine Scholarships, but **do NOT** need to receive a McLoraine Scholarship in order to be eligible for the Caryl Miller College Scholarship.

### How to Apply:

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicants first and last name in the header.*

1. Submit a completed application for the Helen McLoraine Collegiate Scholarship by the scholarship deadline as outlined above, including: cover page, personal essays, letter of recommendation, school transcript. No additional materials are required for this specific award.

## GIRLS INC. HEADQUARTERS SCHOLARSHIPS

### Lucille Miller Wright Scholarships – Up to \$25,000

Scholarships may be awarded to students currently enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade, who are current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver members AND:

Additional Requirements:

- Are U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents or Eligible non-residents eligible for federal financial aid through FAFSA
- Grade point average of 2.8 or higher
- Have been a Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member for 2 years or more as of the application deadline (December 1, 2025)

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicant's first and last name in the header.*

1. Complete the application cover page.

2. Include a personal essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:

- **Describe your future career goals. Why does this interest you? What steps have you taken to explore your career possibilities? (volunteer, intern, job shadow, etc.)**

- **Where do you intend to pursue your post-high school education? What do you intend to study?**
- **If received, how will you apply this scholarship toward your educational expenses? (tuition, books, etc.) What other sources of funding do you anticipate? How will this award make a difference in your ability to pursue/complete your degree?**

3. Include an essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:

**Summarize your journey at Girls Inc. as a program participant and/or volunteer. How has Girls Inc. made a difference in your life? Describe the unique impact that your experiences at Girls Inc. have had on your life.**

4. Include an essay, up to two pages in length, to address **ONE** of the following essay topics. (Be sure to indicate which topic you have chosen)

**A. Pro-Girl, Girls-Only Environment & Research-Based Curricula: How does being in an all-girl environment impact your experiences at Girls Inc.? How is it different from school or other activities where boys and girls are together? Do you feel you have learned to be more confident and have gained new skills to help you transition from your teen years to becoming a young adult?**

**B. Trusting, Mentoring Relationships & Sustained Exposure: Is there a specific staff or volunteer you feel has mentored you? Please share how you have benefited from this relationship. How does participating over multiple years increase these benefits?**

**C. Interactive Activities & Intentional Programming: Describe your favorite activities and/or programs that you feel helped you to learn something new. At Girls Inc., have you had experiences that you feel you would not have had elsewhere?**

5. Include an essay, up to one page in length, to address the following questions:

**Describe your extracurricular activities OUTSIDE of Girls Inc. (school clubs, sports, work, community, or religious groups, etc.) Share your length of involvement and how these activities have impacted your personal growth. How have your experiences at Girls Inc. affected and/or inspired your involvement in these extracurricular activities?**

6. Include your official school transcript. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.

7. Include one letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope, or emailed to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) from a staff member at your school (teacher, counselor, principal, advisor, etc.) Letters from relatives or Girls Inc. staff will not be accepted.

8. Include one letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope, or emailed to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) from a current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver staff member.

9. Complete an additional cover page document, which includes your signature and a signature of your parent or guardian.
8. Submit all of your materials by the deadline.

### Suzanne Patzmore Gibbs Scholarships – \$25,000

Scholarships may be awarded to students currently enrolled in the 12th grade, who are current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver members AND:

Additional Requirements:

- Are U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents or Eligible non-residents eligible for federal financial aid through FAFSA
- Grade point average of 2.8 or higher
- Demonstrate Courage
- Have been a Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member for 2 years or more as of the application deadline (December 1, 2025)

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicant's first and last name in the header.*

1. Complete the application cover page.

2. Include a personal essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:

- **Describe your future career goals. Why does this interest you? What steps have you taken to explore your career possibilities? (volunteer, intern, job shadow, etc.)**
- **Where do you intend to pursue your post-high school education? What do you intend to study?**
- **If received, how will you apply this scholarship toward your educational expenses? (tuition, books, etc.) What other sources of funding do you anticipate? How will this award make a difference in your ability to pursue/complete your degree?**

3. Include an essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:

**Summarize your journey at Girls Inc. as a program participant and/or volunteer. How has Girls Inc. made a difference in your life? Describe the unique impact that your experiences at Girls Inc. have had on your life.**

4. Include an essay, up to two pages in length, to address **ONE** of the following essay topics. (Be sure to indicate which topic you have chosen)

**A. Pro-Girl, Girls-Only Environment & Research-Based Curricula: How does being in an all-girl environment impact your experiences at Girls Inc.? How is it different from school or other activities where boys and girls are together? Do you feel you have learned to be more confident and have gained new skills to help you transition from your teen years to becoming a young adult?**



**B. Trusting, Mentoring Relationships & Sustained Exposure: Is there a specific staff or volunteer you feel has mentored you? Please share how you have benefited from this relationship. How does participating over multiple years increase these benefits?**

**C. Interactive Activities & Intentional Programming: Describe your favorite activities and/or programs that you feel helped you to learn something new. At Girls Inc., have you had experiences that you feel you would not have had elsewhere?**

5. Include an essay, up to one page in length, to address the following questions:

**Describe your extracurricular activities OUTSIDE of Girls Inc. (school clubs, sports, work, community, or religious groups, etc.) Share your length of involvement and how these activities have impacted your personal growth. How have your experiences at Girls Inc. affected and/or inspired your involvement in these extracurricular activities?**

6. Include your official school transcript. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.

7. Include one letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope, or emailed to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) from a staff member at your school (teacher, counselor, principal, advisor, etc.) Letters from relatives or Girls Inc. staff will not be accepted.

8. Include one letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope, or emailed to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) from a current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver staff member.

9. Complete an additional cover page document, which includes your signature and a signature of your parent or guardian.

8. Submit all of your materials by the deadline.

### “She’s Got More” POWERADE Scholarships – Up to \$10,000

Scholarships may be awarded to students currently enrolled in the 12th grade, who are current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver members AND:

Additional Requirements:

- Are U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents or Eligible non-residents eligible for federal financial aid through FAFSA
- Grade point average of 2.8 or higher
- Demonstrate achievement and passion for athletics and plan to engage in athletics in college
- Have been a Girls Inc. of Metro Denver member for 2 years or more as of the application deadline (December 1, 2025)

*Please note: all materials must be 12pt. font, 1-inch margins, double-spaced, single-sided, and each page should list the applicant's first and last name in the header.*

1. Complete the application cover page.

2. Include a personal essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:

- **Describe your future career goals. Why does this interest you? What steps have you taken to explore your career possibilities? (volunteer, intern, job shadow, etc.)**
- **Where do you intend to pursue your post-high school education? What do you intend to study?**
- **If received, how will you apply this scholarship toward your educational expenses? (tuition, books, etc.) What other sources of funding do you anticipate? How will this award make a difference in your ability to pursue/complete your degree?**

3. Include an essay, up to two pages in length, to address the following questions:

**Summarize your journey at Girls Inc. as a program participant and/or volunteer. How has Girls Inc. made a difference in your life? Describe the unique impact that your experiences at Girls Inc. have had on your life.**

4. Include an essay, up to two pages in length, to address **ONE** of the following essay topics. (Be sure to indicate which topic you have chosen)

**A. Pro-Girl, Girls-Only Environment & Research-Based Curricula: How does being in an all-girl environment impact your experiences at Girls Inc.? How is it different from school or other activities where boys and girls are together? Do you feel you have learned to be more confident and have gained new skills to help you transition from your teen years to becoming a young adult?**

**B. Trusting, Mentoring Relationships & Sustained Exposure: Is there a specific staff or volunteer you feel has mentored you? Please share how you have benefited from this relationship. How does participating over multiple years increase these benefits?**

**C. Interactive Activities & Intentional Programming: Describe your favorite activities and/or programs that you feel helped you to learn something new. At Girls Inc., have you had experiences that you feel you would not have had elsewhere?**

5. Include an essay, up to one page in length, to address the following questions:

**Describe your extracurricular activities OUTSIDE of Girls Inc. (school clubs, sports, work, community, or religious groups, etc.) Share your length of involvement and how these activities have impacted your personal growth. How have your experiences at Girls Inc. affected and/or inspired your involvement in these extracurricular activities?**

6. Include your official school transcript. Unofficial transcripts will not be accepted.

7. Include one letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope, or emailed to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) from a staff member at your school (teacher, counselor, principal, advisor, etc.) Letters from relatives or Girls Inc. staff will not be accepted.

8. Include one letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope, or emailed to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) from a current Girls Inc. of Metro Denver staff member.
9. Complete an additional cover page document, which includes your signature and a signature of your parent or guardian.
8. Submit all of your materials by the deadline.



of Metro Denver

## GIRLS INC. OF METRO DENVER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM Application Cover Page

Please circle the scholarship you are applying for:

- A. Teen Leadership Scholarship (10<sup>th</sup> grade)
- B. Strong, Smart, and Bold Scholarship (11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade)
- C. Collegiate Scholarship (Current college student)

Please circle if you are also applying for any of the following scholarships:

- E. Dyan Foss STEM Scholarship or TraciJim STEM Scholarship (10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade)
- F. Tiffany K. Payne and Matt Mann Community College Scholarship (12<sup>th</sup> grade first generation students planning to attend a Colorado Community College)
- G. Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarships (11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who have been members for 2+ years and are eligible for FAFSA financial aid)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade \_\_\_\_\_

High School (currently attending) \_\_\_\_\_

College/University (currently attending) \_\_\_\_\_

First-Generation College Student\* (please circle): YES NO

*\*Requirement for Tiffany K. Payne and Matt Mann Community College and LaRey Peterson Scholarships only. First-generation college student is defined as: You will be the first person in your immediate family (excluding siblings) to attend college. Neither of your parents attended college.*

*I certify that the information on this form and the information in my packet is accurate and the essay enclosed is my original work.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## GIRLS INC. OF METRO DENVER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM School Staff Recommendation Letter Request

**of Metro Denver**

To Whom It May Concern:

\_\_\_\_\_ is applying to the Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Scholarship Program, which awards scholarships annually. These scholarships recognize the leadership and accomplishments of students who have participated in Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver programs. The purpose of the scholarship program is to make post-secondary education accessible by offsetting the financial costs of higher education. Our hope is that our scholarships will inspire young women to succeed in school, become leaders and contribute to their communities.

Part of the scholarship selection process requires a letter of recommendation from someone in an educational setting who can speak to the applicant's abilities and qualifications. By receiving this form, the applicant is requesting that you provide answers to the following questions with your signature and stated relationship to the applicant. Your letter is a critical part of our selection and awareness process.

Please answer the following questions in a separate typed letter. The letter should be no more than ONE page, on high school letterhead, single-sided, double-spaced, 12-point standard font, and personally signed.

- How long have you known the applicant? In what capacity? (Required)
- Describe the applicant's participation in school activities and how they have made a positive contribution to the school. (Required)
- Describe how their achievements have distinguished them from their peers. (Required)
- Describe how they are a positive role model for their peers and younger students. (Optional)
- Describe their capacity for success in postsecondary education. (Optional)

The completed application must be submitted via email to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) by **5:00 pm on December 1, 2025.**

On behalf of Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver, we thank you for your time, interest and participation in this process. Thank you for helping to inspire our girls to become strong, smart, and bold.

Sincerely,

The Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Scholarship Program



of Metro Denver

## GIRLS INC. HEADQUARTERS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM Girls Inc. Staff Recommendation Letter Request

To Whom It May Concern:

\_\_\_\_\_ is applying to the Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarship Program, which awards scholarships annually. These scholarships recognize the leadership and accomplishments of students who have participated in Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver programs. The purpose of the scholarship program is to make post-secondary education accessible by offsetting the financial costs of higher education. Our hope is that our scholarships will inspire young women to succeed in school, become leaders and contribute to their communities.

Part of the scholarship selection process requires a letter of recommendation from someone in an educational setting who can speak to the applicant's abilities and qualifications. By receiving this form, the applicant is requesting that you provide answers to the following questions with your signature and stated relationship to the applicant. Your letter is a critical part of our selection and awareness process.

Please answer the following questions in a separate typed letter. The letter should be no more than TWO pages, on Girls Inc. letterhead, single-sided, double-spaced, 12-point standard font, and personally signed.

- How long have you known the applicant? In what capacity? (Required)
- How has the applicant distinguished themselves in their involvement with Girls Inc.? (Required)
- In what way have they shown their ability to follow through on goals and responsibilities? (Required)
- In what ways have you seen them grow during the time that you have known them? (Optional)
- Describe how they are a positive role model for their peers and younger participants. (Optional)

The completed application must be submitted via email to Sarah McGill at [smcgill@gidenver.org](mailto:smcgill@gidenver.org) by **5:00 pm on December 1, 2025.**

On behalf of Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver, we thank you for your time, interest and participation in this process. Thank you for helping to inspire our girls to become strong, smart, and bold.

## The Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Scholarship Program Guidelines

1. All recipients will be selected through a fair, equitable, standardized, and non-discriminatory application process.
2. Application information will be distributed widely and posted on the Girls Inc. website to ensure that eligible students are informed of the opportunity.
3. An applicant must submit an application for the scholarships for which they would like to be considered.
4. Unsuccessful applicants will be encouraged to apply in a subsequent year if they meet the scholarship criteria.
5. Girls Inc. of Metro Denver defines a “member” as any participant who has submitted (or will submit) a member application by the scholarship deadline and participates in programming prior to high school graduation.
6. Scholarship awards must be used for post-secondary education or professional training from any accredited institution.
7. Scholarship recipients may use their scholarship award for fees assessed by the school they are attending and/or required books and supplies. This includes: tuition, fees, room & board, and application fees charged by the school. This **does not** include: private rent, utilities, grocery bills, travel expenses, deposits, late fees, or amounts due from semesters prior to when the student was awarded the scholarship.
8. A participant may receive one scholarship from the Dyan L. Foss Scholarship program.
9. An individual may receive up to two scholarships from the Helen McLoraine Scholarship Program in separate years, with one year off between applications.
10. Scholarship payments are contingent upon the student's graduation from high school (or completion of her G.E.D.) and acceptance into and continuance in the program of their choice.
11. Students who are selected for a scholarship while in high school, or before beginning college, must use their scholarship funds within five years of the date they graduate from high school or receive their G.E.D. Current college students who receive an award must use their awards within five years of the date they were awarded the scholarship. The award year begins on the award date of the scholarship and includes one summer, one fall, and one spring semester.
12. The scholarship grants are intended to be used in full to support a student's studies. To ensure that the award will not be considered as taxable income by the I.R.S., recipients shall not be required to do anything in exchange for their scholarship apart from those actions pertaining to enrollment and continuation in school. Recipients can be invited or encouraged to complete an internship, promote the organization, etc., but these activities cannot be required.
13. Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarship policies differ from Girls Inc. of Metro Denver Scholarship policies. Girls Inc. Headquarters Scholarship recipients will receive detailed scholarship policies upon being awarded scholarships.