

# **THE 2022-2023 SHELTER INSURANCE FOUNDATION SUCCESS GRANT**

2022-2023 GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION FORM

## **BACKGROUND**

Are you a teen who cares about your hometown? Do you want to leave your handprint on Columbia before you head to college or a career program?

The Shelter Insurance Foundation Success Grant is an opportunity for you, as a Columbia high school junior or senior, to take care of your community and ease the financial burden of continuing your education. Along with the ability to obtain and maintain employment, research shows that graduating high school and attending post-secondary education significantly increase your potential to become self-supporting and achieve personal and professional goals. The Success Grant is a partnership between the City of Columbia and Shelter Insurance Foundation.

Since 2017, the Foundation has awarded \$1,000 annual grants to five Columbia high school graduates. They had different types of career plans; completed community caretaking projects tailored to the interests of their neighborhoods; and chose different higher education institutions. The connection among all of them is the positive effects they had on the community. You are invited to build on their foundation and leave something for generations to come.

## **OVERVIEW**

The Shelter Insurance Foundation Success Grant:

- Is intended to help students with financial need, high character and a passion to make Columbia a safe place where everyone has an opportunity to succeed;
- Is intended to challenge students to demonstrate regard for the community in return for foundation support;
- Will give an annual \$1,000 grant to the two- or four-year accredited college, university or career/technical school of the student's choice and shall be renewable for up to four years (contingent on conditions outlined in the grant contract upon receipt of award); and
- Can be used to cover the cost of tuition, fees, housing and books.

## ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION PROCESS

An applicant for the Shelter Insurance Foundation Success Grant must fulfill these requirements.

Plan to enter post-secondary education in the Fall of 2022 (if currently a senior) or in the Fall of 2023 (if currently a junior).

Be a US citizen at the time of application.

Attend a Columbia public high school and have primary residence in Columbia, Missouri.

Have a minimum GPA of 2.5 at the time of high school graduation.

If currently a senior, be prepared to complete a community care-taking project during the Summer of 2022 before attending post-secondary education.

Complete the Grant Form which can be obtained through the high school counseling office, at City Hall or online at

<https://www.shelterinsurance.com/lp/successgrants/>

If currently a junior, be prepared to complete a community care-taking project during the Summer of 2022 or 2023 and before attending post-secondary education.

Complete a personal interview with the Success Grant committee, if selected as a finalist.

## THE COMMUNITY CARE-TAKING PROJECT

### What's the point?

As Success Grant sponsors, the Foundation and the City of Columbia know that the cost of higher education and career training far exceeds the award we offer. Still, we believe that any amount that helps ease the financial burden on families and contributes to a student's well-being is worth considering. We believe this grant comes with unique benefits reflecting a commitment to public service, community life and career preparation.

#### Benefits for students

- Application of and experience with time management, budgeting and using resources
- Confidence-building through leadership and problem solving
- Mentor matching with a community leader in the public or private sector
- Hands-on experience with professionals with many skills and backgrounds
- Attractive additions to the student's resume

#### Benefits for the community

- Ability to engage students as future leaders
- Cultivates future employees and community members for continued development
- Community can provide more leadership, input and support for young adults

### Project options

1. A project of your own that you plan, design and deliver using your own and donated resources.

*Example: Mekhia Thompson, a Battle High graduate and winner of the first Success Grant in 2017, hosted a block party her east Columbia neighborhood. In her words:*

*"My proposal to get the community in my neighborhood more involved with one another is to have a block party. I know that in the Rice Road Area, there's a variety of kids...and I want to do something that would*

*involve their interests...If we had law enforcement or City officials out being involved, then I believe that would break down assumptions and stereotypes of authority figures in our society.”*

2. Volunteer your time and talent at an event or for a purpose sponsored by the City of Columbia.

*Example: The City hosts many opportunities to participate in neighborhood clean-ups, caring for the environment, working with younger children and other activities.*

3. Volunteer your time and talent at an event or for a purpose sponsored by a local service organization.

*Example: Many organizations regularly seek help for their missions to provide for the basic needs of Community members. This activity may be at an organization’s headquarters or elsewhere in Columbia.*

### **Presenting your community care-taking project**

Take time to think about needs you see in your neighborhood or the community, especially those that move you to action. It’s okay to get advice from teachers, friends, family members and other people whose opinion you value.

Decide on the need you want to address and what kind of result you hope to achieve. Then pick the best option: your own project or volunteering for a City program or a program sponsored by a service organization.

Describe your intention in the application form. If you wish to volunteer with a City program or one sponsored by a local service organization, identify the program (if you know it) or describe your interest and ask to be matched with an appropriate program. It will be very helpful if you can provide as much specific information as possible so that the Grant Review Committee can fully evaluate your application.

If you wish to develop your own project, provide as full a description as possible.

- Project name
- The need you want to address, the goal you want to achieve and how it will benefit Columbia
- What you plan to do and when you plan to do it
- Where the activity will take place
- People you would involve and how you will use their knowledge and skills
- Tools, supplies, food, funds and other things you will need to make the project succeed

### **PRESENTING YOURSELF**

In the application, tell us why you think you are a good candidate to receive a Success Grant. Tell us about any record of success with other projects; school activities in which you’ve been involved; and any examples of how you faced and overcame adversity. Describe instances when you have shown leadership.

If you wish to be matched with a local leader, please provide the person’s name and the reason why you are interested in meeting this person. The leader may be active in government, business, education or any other sector of the community. We will do our best to get you connected.

Fill out the Success Grant application form. **Be sure to sign where needed.**

**Obtain your current transcript** (may be unofficial) from your high school guidance office and deliver or send your application with transcript to the address below, or you may email it to [mpeterman@ShelterInsurance.com](mailto:mpeterman@ShelterInsurance.com). **Your application packet must be received by 5 p.m., Monday, February 21, 2022.**

**Mail or Deliver to:**

Success Grant Review Committee  
c/o Macie Peterman  
Shelter Insurance Corporate Office  
1817 W Broadway  
Columbia, MO 65218

**Review process**

February 21, 2022, 5 p.m.	All proposals received by Success Grant Review Committee
Early March	Review Committee meets to discuss all applications; selects applicants to invite for personal interviews. Informs students next day.
Mid-March	Review Committee interviews students.
After Interviews	Informs all applicants and begins connecting them to their volunteer projects and mentors, if they have asked for these connections.
June - July	If currently seniors, applicants carry out their projects or volunteer in local programs.  If currently juniors, applicants may carry out their projects or volunteer in local programs any time before entering post-secondary education in 2021.
August TBD	Success Grant funds released to post-secondary institution (when requested by school)

**Application for the  
2022 – 2023 Shelter Insurance Foundation Success Grant**

**Section 1. Information to be supplied by the applicant. (please print or type)**

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

Male:  Female:  (First) (Middle) (Last)  
Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address of the Parent or Guardian:



**The applicant attests that he/she is not a natural born or legally adopted child of any Shelter Insurance® employee or agent. Please sign below.**



**In the space below, briefly summarize your school and community activities. List organizations of which you are a member and offices held. (additional information may be attached, if necessary)**

What post-secondary institution do you plan to attend? (must be no later than the September following high school graduation) \_\_\_\_\_

What is your intended college major and what are your educational plans?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please list all other scholarships, awards or financial aid for which you have applied, or have been granted (indicate which), for the coming school years.**

<u>Name of Financial Aid</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Has it been granted to you?</u>

**Section Two: Your Neighborhood Project**

**Below, please describe your proposed neighborhood service project. Refer to the instructions on page two. (You may attach other pages if needed).**