



Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship Fund

Purpose

Head Start is a federally funded program established over 61 years ago to provide early childhood health and education services to children and families living in poverty. Shasta Head Start has been serving low income families in Shasta, Trinity, and Siskiyou counties since 1965.

Shasta Head Start is proud to present the Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship to one current or past parent of Shasta Head Start. The Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in memory of Christina Madrigal, who was the daughter of California farm laborers and began her own Head Start career as a single parent in the program. Chris was a dedicated employee of both the Napa and Shasta Head Start agencies for over 40 years. Based on her own life experiences, low income families were her primary motivation and focus. She was a dynamic advocate for parent education and family empowerment. This is a competitive scholarship.

The purpose of the Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship Program is to recognize a current or past parent of Shasta Head Start who attends or plans to attend a college, university or technical school. Our goal is to encourage Shasta Head Start parents to pursue postsecondary education. We award one, \$1,000 scholarship to a current parent or past parent. The scholarship is sponsored by Columbia Bank.

The scholarship awarded by the Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship Fund shall be used to directly reimburse tuition and other costs and fees associated with postsecondary education. The Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship Fund will be distributed directly to the student.

Eligibility

Applicants must be current or past parents of Shasta Head Start, who currently attend or who intend to enroll in a postsecondary institution, which may be a public or non-public university, college or technical school. Applicants must be able to provide documentation of the year and location of the Shasta Head Start Program your child attends/attended.

Scoring System and Procedure

The Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship Fund application scoring system uses a point system for each of the following criteria: **application** (20 possible points), **volunteer service** (20 possible points), **references** (10 possible points), and **overall written essay** (50 possible points), which should include where and when your child attends/attended Shasta Head Start.

The Shasta Head Start Scholarship Committee will review all the applications and meet if necessary. The scores will assist the Committee in the selection process of the scholarship winner.

All decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final.

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated on your volunteer service with Shasta Head Start (i.e., Policy Council, classroom or other experience.)

Applicants will also be evaluated on your ability to articulate goals in three areas: future educational goals, personal family goals (how will your education impact your family's future goals), and career goals.

Recipients are required to write a short letter/card of thanks to the scholarship donor, Columbia Bank. The donor will enjoy learning more about you and how the scholarship has helped you!

Application Process

Each applicant must:

- 1) Complete a Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship Fund application, (download a copy at www.shastaheadstart.org)
- 2) Submit a two-page essay that demonstrates an interest in the welfare of your children and family:
 - a. when and where your child attends/attended Shasta Head Start, and the memories and benefits your family has received from the program
 - b. what your educational and family goals are
 - c. the volunteer service you have performed at Shasta Head Start, including how service has made a meaningful impact to your family
 - d. any work experience (paid or unpaid) you have had
- 3) Submit **two** letters of recommendation. Each letter must be from a different category of any of the following:
 - a. College instructor or counselor
 - b. Shasta Head Start employee
 - c. Family friend (family members are excluded)
 - d. Employer
- 4) Provide your current photo (and photo of your child's Head Start experience, if available). Submission of your/your child's photo grants Shasta Head Start permission to include it in any media publicity as appropriate.
- 5) Provide proof that you are enrolled in, or have applied and been accepted, to a public or non-public college, university or technical school. Evidence of Fall semester class registration must be provided to Shasta Head Start before award funding will be distributed to the scholarship winner.

The Scholarship Committee will evaluate and score all eligible scholarship applications based on established criteria. Essays will be scored based on completeness and organization.

If for any reason the scholarship award cannot be used as requested, or if a student terminates his or her courses for any reason, any unused portion of the scholarship award **MUST** be returned directly to The Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Shasta Head Start. All scholarship awards must be claimed within 120 days of award date or they will be forfeited.

Deadline for the application is April 10, 2026 5:00 p.m. Type or print legibly. Illegible applications will not be accepted. Applications postmarked or emailed after this date will not be considered. No incomplete applications will be considered.

Please mail to:

Shasta Head Start Child Development, Inc.
Christina Madrigal Memorial Scholarship Fund
Attn: Kristin Pope
375 Lake Blvd., Suite 100
Redding, CA 96003

Or email to: a-a@shskids.org

Press releases regarding the scholarship recipients will be sent to appropriate media upon selection of recipients. Recipients will also be listed on the Shasta Head Start Child Development, Inc. website (www.shastaheadstart.org) and social media pages.