Cathy Houlihan First Gen Scholarship

The School of Social Work is announcing a newly funded $3,000 scholarship for a BA student who is majoring in social work and is a first-generation college student. At the University of Iowa, first-generation students are those students who do not have a parent(s) or guardian(s) who completed a four-year degree. This fund is established by Cathy Houlihan, a 1978 BA Social Work alumna. Ms. Houlihan’s interest is in supporting first generation college students in the major. One award will be funded.

Students self-nominate.

Application includes:

- A ONE PAGE essay stating that you are a first-generation college student and informing the donor of how the gift will benefit you in your social work career.
- The name of one social work faculty member who would support your self-nomination.

The applicant must be enrolled in the SW program currently (spring semester) and in the fall semester when the award is received.

The review panel will also review the candidate’s essays submitted as part of their BA Social Work application materials to select the award recipients.

One recipient will be chosen and will be expected to write to Ms. Houlihan, and to meet with her if she visits campus.

Application deadline: Sunday, April 17, 2022. The selection will be made on or about April 30, 2022 with disbursement of the $3,000 award to be made to the student’s University account in September 2022.

How to apply

- Accept invitation to join School of Social Work Scholarships ICON site.
- Once in the site, locate the Module titled, Cathy Houlihan First Generation Scholarship.
- Upload your statement with your name at the top and the name of a social work faculty member who has agreed to be a reference.

Questions may be directed to Kate-kemp@uiowa.edu

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