

2025

scholarship
report





Letter from the Director of Scholarships



Donors, Friends, and Community Members:

Each year, I am reminded of the life-changing power of education and the role scholarships play in making that power accessible to more students across Oklahoma. At Communities Foundation of Oklahoma, we are honored to walk alongside donors who believe in the potential of students and students who are determined to pursue their dreams.

This year, we are especially proud to highlight the Cherokee Nation Foundation Scholarship Program—one of the largest ever administered at CFO. This generous commitment will open doors for generations of students, reflecting the Cherokee Nation Foundation's dedication to education and community impact. In addition, you'll find stories of students whose lives have been shaped by scholarships and a new feature spotlighting a donor whose generosity makes this work possible.

As we celebrate these milestones, we also look ahead. The 2026 scholarship cycle will open soon, and with it, new opportunities for students to take their next steps toward a brighter future.

Thank you for being part of this important work and for believing in the power of education to transform lives and communities.

Sincerely,
Amber Shelton
Director of Scholarships





CHEROKEE NATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

This year marked an exciting milestone for Communities Foundation of Oklahoma as we began administering the Cherokee Nation Foundation's broad portfolio of scholarships. With more than 20 unique opportunities available to Cherokee Nation citizens, these scholarships represent an extraordinary investment in students' futures, helping them pursue higher education, reduce student debt, and remain connected to their culture and community. From leadership awards to scholarships supporting fields like behavioral health, fine arts, education, and business, the Cherokee Nation Foundation's commitment to education is both wide-reaching and deeply impactful.

By partnering with CFO, the Cherokee Nation Foundation has expanded its reach through a new online application system and strengthened its ability to serve students efficiently and equitably. We are proud to support their mission and to play a role in stewarding these funds that open doors for so many Cherokee students each year. As we reflect on this first year of collaboration, we are inspired by the generosity and vision of the Cherokee Nation Foundation and look forward to continuing this important work together for years to come.

SCHOLARSHIP HIGHLIGHT

Kinlee Denton Memorial Scholarship



The Kinlee Denton Memorial Scholarship was established by Kinlee's family and community to honor her life and legacy after her tragic passing. Rooted in the qualities that defined Kinlee—her character and the way she loved others—this scholarship is designed to recognize students who embody those same values of kindness, compassion, and strength of spirit.

In its inaugural year, the fund awarded scholarships to two deserving young women: Keira Laudwig of Kingfisher High School and Katelyn Myers of Lomega High School. These awards were made possible through the generosity of family, friends, and community members in Kingfisher and beyond. At Communities Foundation of Oklahoma, we are honored to help steward this fund as it continues to grow, ensuring that Kinlee's legacy of love and encouragement will inspire and support students for generations to come.

The continued generosity of donors and community partners will be essential in sustaining and expanding the impact of this scholarship for future students.

To donate to this fund, visit: cfok.org/kinleedenton

TULSA ENGINEERING TCC TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIP

Oklahoma State University
Andreas Johnson

"This scholarship does impact my ability to attend OSU, and I am so grateful for this opportunity. I work extremely hard for myself, but my dreams would be impossible without the help of others. I live paycheck to paycheck, and opportunities like this one give me the same chances as those who come from much more affluent backgrounds. My mental health has been so much better this semester, and I am becoming proud of who I am and know my future will be much different from what I come from. I know my GPA will continue to climb, and my life is starting to become so much more manageable. It still is not easy, but with this support, it definitely now seems possible. Helping me also helps others everyone I meet I speak life into them and tell them about how there are opportunities to success just like the ones given to me."

The Tulsa Engineering TCC Transfer Scholarship provides an \$18,000 (\$3,000/semester) scholarship to TCC engineering students who are transferring to a four-year university.

**TO VIEW THE FULL LIST OF OUR
SCHOLARSHIP OFFERINGS VISIT:**

WWW.CFOK.ORG/SCHOLARSHIP-OPPORTUNITIES

CF Communities
Foundation
of Oklahoma

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2026

APPLICATION OPENS
JANUARY 2nd

VISIT: CFOK.ORG/SCHOLARSHIP-OPPORTUNITIES

