

History of the Czech Heritage Foundation Scholarship Fund

Czech Heritage Foundation
Cedar Rapids, Iowa

The Czech Heritage Foundation understands the importance and high cost of education for youth. It has therefore established the Czech Heritage Foundation Scholarship Fund for applicants of Czech/Slovak ancestry. The program was established in 1998 and, as of 2009, has given 55 scholarships to worthy applicants. The amount and number of scholarships to be given annually is at the discretion of the Czech Heritage Foundation Scholarship Committee and is voted on once a year.

The Czech Heritage Foundation Scholarship Fund has monies available for applicants of Czech ancestry who have completed a minimum of one year as a full time post secondary student, have accumulated at least 28 post secondary credits, or are a graduate student. (Note: the scholarship may be awarded up to two times to the same individual, once as an undergraduate and once as a graduate student.) Applicants' home address must be within 100 miles of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and upon receipt of an award, they are expected to participate in a function sponsored by the Czech Heritage Foundation, such as the St. Joseph's Day Dance held in March, Houby Days in May, the Czech Heritage Foundation Picnic in August, or recognized programs sponsored by the Czech Heritage Foundation.

As part of the application process, students are expected to submit transcripts, character reference letters, descriptions of need and personal involvement in their Czech heritage, and information about their Czech ancestry.

The applicant(s) selected to receive a scholarship will be notified of the award and the amount. Funds will be sent at the proper time directly to the recipient(s).

The 2010 Scholarship Committee includes:
Frank and Barb Edmunds
Lee and Blair Thornbloom
Arlo and Joyce Netolicky

Czech Heritage Foundation Scholarship Fund

1. **Purpose:** The purpose of this scholarship fund is to provide financial assistance to students of Czech/Slovak heritage who are attending an accredited post-secondary education institution on a full time basis.
2. **Applicant Requirements:**
 - a. The applicant must have Czech/Slovak ancestry
 - b. The applicant must have completed a minimum of one year as a full time post secondary student or accumulated at least 28 post secondary credits.
 - c. The applicant must be enrolled full time in an accredited post secondary education institution.
 - d. Applicant's home (not school) address must be within 100 miles of Cedar Rapids, IA
 - e. Upon receipt of award, applicant must participate in a function sponsored by the Czech Heritage Foundation, such as the St. Joseph's Day Dance held in March, Houby Days in May, the Czech Heritage Foundation Picnic in August, or recognized programs sponsored by the Czech Heritage Foundation.
 - f. Every applicant must complete an application form. The application must be postmarked on or before July 1st of the application year and mailed to:
Lee Thornbloom, Scholarship Coordinator
433 Parkland Dr. SE
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403
3. **Evaluation Criteria:**
 - a. 25% - Academic achievement
 - b. 25% - Need
 - c. 25% - Support of Czech/Slovak Heritage
 - d. 25% - Character and school activities
4. **Fund Administration by the Scholarship Board:**
 - a. The Scholarship Board is composed of members who are appointed by the President of the Czech Heritage Foundation, with approval of the Czech Heritage Foundation. The officers of the Scholarship Board shall include a secretary and treasurer, selected by the scholarship board.
 - b. The Scholarship Board will have the authority to determine who shall receive awards. The scholarship may be awarded up to two times to the same individual, once as an undergraduate and once as a graduate student.
 - c. The amounts(s) and number of scholarships will be determined by the Scholarship Board. Only interest received from invested funds may be used to establish the amount available for scholarships. This will be a determining factor as to the number of awards and the amount of each award.
 - d. The applicants(s) selected to receive a scholarship will be notified of the award and the amount. The funds will be sent at the proper time directly to the recipient(s).
 - e. A financial report of the Scholarship Fund and an annual audit will be made at each annual meeting of the Czech Heritage Foundation.
5. **Recipient Default:** If a scholarship recipient fails to attend the accredited educational institution listed on the application form or drops out of school during the year, the scholarship funds MUST be returned to the Czech Heritage Foundation Scholarship Board.

Application for Czech Heritage Foundation Scholarship

Name _____ **Date of Birth** _____

Permanent Address _____

City, State, & Zip Code _____

Phone () _____ **E-Mail Address** _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Post Secondary School _____

Address _____

City, State, & Zip Code _____

School Attending Next Year _____

Temporary Address _____

City, State, & Zip Code _____

Attach Statements of:

1. Academic achievement (25%)
 - a. Transcripts of secondary education
 - b. Transcripts of post secondary education
2. Need (25%)
 - a. Description of need for financial assistance to achieve your goals
3. Support of Czech heritage (25%)
 - a. Description of your **personal** activities supporting your Czech heritage
 - b. List of Czech ancestry
4. Character and school activities (25%)
 - a. Biographical statement about yourself and chosen course of study
 - b. Awards, honors, and offices held
 - c. Three (3) character reference letters

Note: If the person receiving a scholarship fails to attend the accredited post secondary institution listed above, or drops out during the school year, the scholarship MUST be returned.

- **If you have any question or concerns, contact Mrs. Thornbloom at (319) 366-4056.**
- **Applications along with attachments must be postmarked on or before July 1st.**

I hereby declare my application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, and furthermore, I agree to the rules of the Czech Heritage Foundation Scholarship Fund.

Signature _____ **Date** _____