

THE CHEZ FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

APPLICATION

The Chez Family Scholarship is funded by the Ronald Chez Family Foundation and is administered by the University of Illinois Foundation. Working in concert with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Chicago area public high schools, the Chez family provides opportunities for promising students who are economically disadvantaged. Chez Scholars are selected based on financial need, strength of character, work ethic, academic potential and their desire to positively contribute to the community. Each Chez Scholarship provides recipients up to \$10,000 per year for the direct cost of higher education and is renewable for up to four years. By providing financial aid to students who fit these criteria, the Fund will build a path for students who might otherwise be denied the opportunity of a college education.

WWW.ILLINOIS.EDU
uischolarships@illinois.edu



ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



The Chez Family Scholarship Fund: About Ronald L. Chez

Ronald L. Chez is an alumnus of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign from the class of 1962. As a businessman and investor, Mr. Chez serves as the President and sole owner of Ronald L. Chez Incorporated, a principal of Chicago's Sola Restaurant, and the Chairman of the Board for Epi Works, a Champaign-based semiconductor manufacturer.

Beyond his numerous professional accomplishments, Mr. Chez is a generous philanthropist. With his children, Eric and Elizabeth, Mr. Chez has established a family foundation to expand his philanthropic outreach. The Chez Family Scholarship Fund is but one expression of the Chez Foundation's outreach that will build and maintain a bridge of educational access and opportunity for generations of future economically challenged University of Illinois students.

THE CHEZ SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Chez Scholars Program is a college access and retention program that recruits promising Chicago area public high school students. The program is designed to provide the Chez Scholars with support, guidance, and opportunities for personal growth as they journey through their undergraduate experience at Illinois.

The Chez Scholarship Program reflects four foundational tenets:

- » Academic Excellence
- » Civic Engagement and Service Learning
- » Leadership Development
- » Career Development

Chez Scholars are expected to abide by all university policies, as well as attend Chez scheduled events. These events focus on the aforementioned tenets as well as social networking and individual mentoring. Each Chez Scholar is appointed a Chez Mentor who is a graduate student that guides and supports the scholar.

The time commitment of Chez Scholars is approximately three hours a week. These three hours include bi-weekly individual mentoring sessions, bi-weekly group meetings, and bi-weekly Chez Scholar social networking. During weeks with special events, a few additional hours may be added; students will be made aware well in advance. The intent is to provide exceptional opportunities to the Chez Scholars that enhance their academic, professional, social, and personal growth.

ELIGIBILITY

Chez Scholarship applicants will be (with limited exceptions):

- » Chicago Public High School students who have completed the application for admission to the University of Illinois
- » Have a three-year cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better in a college preparatory curriculum, including work in math, science, and English
- » Must be economically disadvantaged, having a household income of less than \$40,000 (approximately 200% of the federal poverty level), the maximum family income for eligibility will be reviewed annually
- » Must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINE

Completed applications must be postmarked by January 2nd, 2010. It must include the following supporting materials:

- » Official high school transcript
- » Standardized test results (SAT or ACT)
- » Essays
- » Two letters of recommendation (preferably one from a teacher/counselor and one from a personal contact who is not related to the student)

It is recommended that the application and all supporting materials be submitted together, in one envelope. Letters of recommendation should be sealed in individual envelopes prior to submission of the application.

Students selected as Chez Scholars will be asked to sign a release that permits selection committee members access to their academic records at the University. Chez Scholars will be asked to provide this release each year that they continue to receive the scholarship.

Important Dates:

- » Application Submission Deadline: January 2
- » Selection of candidates for interviews: February 20
- » Contact candidates for interviews: February 22
- » Interviews: March 1 – 14
- » Submit FAFSA form: no later than March 15
- » Contact award recipient(s): April 1

SELECTION PROCESS

In reviewing candidates, the Committee will consider each application, with particular attention to:

- » Academic potential
- » Work ethic (academic and employment)
- » Extracurricular activities
- » Community involvement
- » Other criteria the committee may deem important

The Committee will complete a full review of each application, including the essays and recommendations, and then select from among the candidates the number of applicants to be interviewed.

FINANCIAL DETAILS

The Chez Scholarship will provide up to \$10,000 per year for up to four years for the direct cost of higher education; i.e. room and board, tuition, and/or books (five years of funding may be available for those students enrolled in a standard five-year curriculum). In order to maximize the number of students who will benefit from the scholarship, the actual amount of the Chez Scholarship will be based on need and determined after the financial aid package is awarded.

RENEWAL OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Chez Scholarships will be renewable annually, subject to several criteria. In their freshman year, Chez Scholars must maintain a GPA of 2.0. Starting in their sophomore year, scholarship recipients must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 (excluding freshman year average), with no individual semester below 2.0. Students will also be required to remain in good standing with the University. Administrative requirements for renewal include annual resubmission of financial data (FAFSA and associated financial records).

SUBMIT AN APPLICATION

It is recommended that the application and all supporting materials be submitted at one time, in one envelope. Applications must be mailed to:

Stacey Kostell
Director of Undergraduate Admissions
University of Illinois
901 West Illinois Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

Should you need additional applications for your students, you can print them off at www.admissions.illinois.edu/chez/application.pdf.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 217.333.0302.

11. Leadership

If you have leadership roles to list, enter up to six instances since the beginning of the ninth grade in which you believe you played a leadership role.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

12. Honors and Awards

If you have honors and awards to list, enter up to eight honors and awards that you have received since the beginning of the ninth grade. If you have received more than eight such awards, list the eight you believe best demonstrate your qualifications to be awarded the Chez Family Scholarship.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

13. Work Experience

Please list your work experience in the order of importance to you.

Employment or Work	FR	SO	JR	SR	Position held	Month/Year	Hours /Wk	Weeks/Yr
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

14. Community Service

Please list your community service in the order of importance to you.

Activity	FR	SO	JR	SR	Position held	Month/Year	Hours /Wk	Weeks/Yr
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	_____	_____	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

15. Short Essays (Each essay should be about 300 words. Attach a separate sheet to the application.)

1. Discuss your academic and professional goals. Which goal are you most determined to achieve? Explain why it is so important to you.
2. Describe your involvement in an activity that was beneficial to your community. Why did you participate and what was the end result?

16. I understand that withholding pertinent information requested on this application or giving false information will make me ineligible for the Chez Family Scholarship Fund. I certify that the statements on this application are correct and complete. I give my permission to officials at all institutions I have attended to release information needed by the University of Illinois to substantiate statements I have made on this application.

A parent or guardian's signature is also required if you are a dependent student.

Signature _____

Date _____

Signature _____

Date _____