



## Workforce Scholarship Program *Frequently Asked Questions*

**I am currently employed but looking for a career change. Am I eligible for this scholarship?**

The Workforce Scholarship targets residents who are unemployed or underemployed. If you are looking to advance your career and find a job in support of industry, you are eligible for this scholarship.

**How will the funds be dispersed?**

Scholarship funding for each recipient will be allocated directly to the individual education institutions and support service providers (i.e. SOWELA Technical Community College, ABC school, Literacy Council of Southwest Louisiana).

**What will my mentor's role be?**

Mentors are an important part of the Workforce Resource Guide model. Mentors support job seekers throughout the scholarship application process as well as during their workforce preparation journey by providing life skills support, guidance, encouragement, influence, mentorship, motivation, advice and assistance coordinating resources. Individuals enrolled in the Workforce Scholarship Program will navigate the Workforce Resource Guide step-by-step model alongside their trained mentor and designated career counselor from start to finish.

Every mentor-participant relationship is different. Some participants will communicate with their mentors every day, and others will not reach out as often. It is important that the mentor reaches out to the participant if they haven't heard from them in awhile, to check in and remind the participant that they are there to help.

**Who is the career counselor and what is his/her role?**

Career counselors provide guidance to job seekers while determining their course of study as well as during the job hunting and interviewing process. Career counseling will be provided to scholarship recipients through Carheel Consulting, LLC, a Lake Charles-based job placement and career consulting firm.

**Which educational institutions are involved in the program?**

The Resource Guide program directs job seekers to local educational institutions such as ABC school and SOWELA Technical Community College.

**What kind of allowance will I receive? How much will it be?**

Based on identified needs, scholarship recipients may be eligible for an allowance to cover support services such as tutoring, transportation and childcare. The allowance amount will be determined on an individual basis.

**I have participated in a mentor training. Do I still need a mentor to apply?**

Yes. Each applicant must designate a mentor to support him/her through the Workforce Resource Guide Scholarship Program. The applicant must identify a mentor during the scholarship program application process that has attended a Workforce Resource Guide mentor training through the Calcasieu Business and Career Solutions Center or the Calcasieu Parish Library System. Attendance by the applicant does not eliminate the requirement for the mentor to complete the training.

**If I complete the program, am I guaranteed a job?**

Completion of the Workforce Scholarship Program will qualify you to compete for a job in industry. It does not guarantee you a job.