

# The Pioneers of Inclusion Scholarship Application

On February 11, 1944, Father Claude Heithaus, S.J., delivered a decisive sermon about racial prejudice in America. This Mass would lead to Saint Louis University (SLU) admitting and enrolling its first five African American students into the University's 1944 summer session. SLU became the first university in a former slave state to establish an official policy to admit African Americans. This historic decision came 10 years before the Supreme Court's landmark ruling in Brown v. Board of Education (Topeka, Kansas), which rendered racial segregation in education illegal.

The Pioneers of Inclusion Scholarship Endowment (POISE) was established in 2014 by SLU's Black Alumni Association, 70 years after SLU's historic decision to celebrate the legacy of those five students who pioneered desegregation at SLU, and it supports current students who represent this legacy of courage for inclusion. As in 1944, SLU is furthering its commitment to social justice by neutralizing the effects of racial segregation through its mission. POISE supports SLU in living its mission by providing scholarships to increase SLU's affordability for students with financial need who will live this legacy and pioneer more inclusion for others. Ideally, the successful applicant is a student with financial need who is high achieving, first generation, and from a historically underrepresented population in U.S. higher education.

## Eligibility Criteria:

1. Students who are from a historically underrepresented population in U.S. higher education
2. Students who are first generation and/or low to modest-income as defined by the Federal TRiO Program and have financial need
3. Students with a minimum GPA of 3.0
4. Undergraduate students, with preference given to those focusing their study in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts or Math)
5. Students in good academic and disciplinary standing
6. Students returning to SLU for the spring semester
7. Submit current year FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)

**Please note:** The application deadline for the Pioneers of Inclusion Scholarship is **SEPTEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>**.

\*The Pioneers of Inclusion Scholarship can be renewed with applicable year's re-application. \*

Please complete the information below and respond to the short answer question included. Upon completion of this application, return to Stephen Lamkin, Assistant Director for Student Educational Services in O'Brien Hall, Room 202. Applications are due by **SEPTEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>**.

**Please note:** The amount of each scholarship and the number of scholarships awarded varies annually depending on the funds available and the applicant pool. Scholarship amounts may range from \$200 to \$5,000, which will be in addition to already awarded financial aid.

## Applicant Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Banner ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Hometown Address: \_\_\_\_\_

At the beginning of the fall semester,

Cum. GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Total credit hrs earned: \_\_\_\_\_ Classification (*FR, SO, JR, SR*): \_\_\_\_\_

Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Minor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Has either of your parents completed a four-year college degree such as a B.A. or a B.S.?

Circle one

*YES*

*NO*

Have you received the Pioneers of Inclusion Scholarship before?

Circle one

*YES*

*NO*

If yes, what was the scholarship amount? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Before you start to complete your scholarship application, please take a moment to think about the prompts below, gather your thoughts and then write your essay.

**In a typed essay of 350-500 words, you must address each prompt in your response:**

- To achieve their goals, these five Pioneers of Inclusion demonstrated poise, courage and perseverance during difficult times. Describe a prior experience that called for you to demonstrate poise, courage, and perseverance. What did you learn from this experience? Describe how you see yourself serving as a pioneer for inclusion who lives this legacy forward. How will this scholarship help you as a pioneer for inclusion?

**You must submit a resume which will reflect your involvement in community leadership, family responsibilities, volunteerism, service, internships and/or work experience.**

*By checking this box, I agree to participate in various stewardship activities, as my schedule permits, if I am selected to receive the scholarship.*

*I certify that my application is true to the best of my knowledge. I grant the scholarship committee permission to verify the information in this application. I understand that an application for this scholarship is not a guarantee of receiving the scholarship.*

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_