

YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM PROFILE

JACK KENT COOKE
FOUNDATION

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial need. Since 2000, the Foundation has awarded \$282 million in scholarships to more than 3,300 students from 8th grade through graduate school, along with comprehensive academic advising, career pathway counseling and other support services. The Foundation has also provided \$133 million in grants to organizations that serve such students.

THE PROGRAM EXPERIENCE

The Cooke Young Scholars Program is a selective five-year, pre-college scholarship for high-performing 7th grade students with financial need. Cooke Educational Advisers help Young Scholars maximize the high school experience and prepare to thrive at the nation's top colleges. Our programming and support includes:

- » Identifying an appropriately rigorous high school.
- » Engaging in four-year planning and goal-setting.
- » Funding for academic and extracurricular opportunities, such as music and art lessons; supplemental academic classes; and technology.
- » Annual summer programs, plus two required Cooke Young Scholar events.
- » Year-round interaction and networking with a community of high-achieving peers.

WHO WE SELECT

Young Scholars are selected from a nationwide applicant pool each year.

Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- » **Grade level**—Currently in seventh grade during the 2023–2024 academic year.
- » **Academics**—Since the beginning of 6th grade, earned grades of all or mostly A's in school, with no C's or below in core academic subjects.
- » **Financial Need**—Demonstrate unmet financial need. We will consider applicants with maximum annual family gross income up to \$95,000. The 2023 cohort of Cooke Young Scholars had a median family income of approximately \$35,600. During the selection process, the Foundation will conduct a full financial review which will take into account all income and assets of the student and the student's parents.
- » **Location**—Currently attending middle school in the U.S. and planning to attend high school in the U.S.

APPLICATION OPEN
FEBRUARY 8–MAY 9, 2024

APPLY ONLINE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE
[JKCF.ORG/YSP](https://jkcf.org/ysp)

Cooke Scholars come from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds and from rural, suburban, and urban communities. Many Scholars will be the first in their families to pursue higher education upon high school graduation.

2023 SELECTED YOUNG SCHOLARS

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ABOUT THE 2023 SCHOLARS

COHORT SIZE

43

COMMUNITY TYPE

14%
RURAL

35%
SUBURBAN

51%
URBAN

RACE/ETHNICITY

AFRICAN AMERICAN
OR BLACK 19%

ASIAN OR
ASIAN AMERICAN 14%

HISPANIC/LATINE
OR SPANISH ORIGIN 23%

WHITE 14%

MULTIRACIAL 21%

DID NOT DESIGNATE 10%



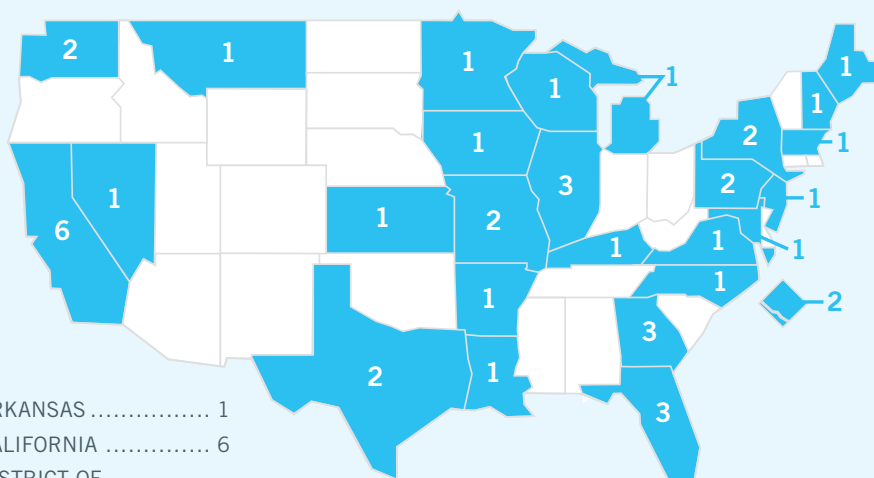
53%
FEMALE

44%
MALE

2%
NON-BINARY

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

25 STATES + DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



ARKANSAS	1
CALIFORNIA	6
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	2
FLORIDA	3
GEORGIA	3
IOWA	1
ILLINOIS	3
KANSAS	1
KENTUCKY	1
LOUISIANA	1

MAINE	1
MARYLAND	1
MASSACHUSETTS	1
MICHIGAN	1
MINNESOTA	1
MISSOURI	2
MONTANA	1
NEVADA	1

NEW HAMPSHIRE	1
NEW JERSEY	1
NEW YORK	2
NORTH CAROLINA	1
PENNSYLVANIA	2
TEXAS	2
VIRGINIA	1
WASHINGTON	2

\$

\$35,600

MEDIAN FAMILY ADJUSTED
GROSS INCOME

OUR SCHOLARS
REPRESENT A WIDE
ARRAY OF INTERESTS
AND TALENTS AND HAVE
ATTAINED IMPRESSIVE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS
DURING MIDDLE
SCHOOL. THEY ARE
ALREADY TAKING
ACCELERATED COURSES
IN STEM, HUMANITIES,
AND LANGUAGES.

This data on our 43 Young Scholars is compiled from their applications, which they submit in the spring before enrolling in eighth grade.

Some percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.