



For Immediate Release

August 8, 2022

Contact:

Josh Hurlock

Assistant Director

Email: jhurlock@chesla.org

Phone: 860-761-8482

CHESLA Awards \$489,000 to Connecticut Students Through Annual Scholarship Program

Hartford, CT, August 8, 2022 - The Connecticut Higher Education Supplemental Loan Authority (CHESLA) announced that its annual undergraduate scholarship program will distribute \$489,000 in financial assistance among 171 Connecticut students for the 2022-2023 academic year. CHESLA held a Scholarship Ceremony August 4th in the Yard Goats Club at Dunkin' Donuts Park in Hartford to recognize the recipients. Thea Montañez, Chief Operating Officer (C.O.O.) of the City of Hartford was the keynote speaker for the event.



From left to right: Josh Hurlock, CHESLA Assistant Director; Thea Montañez, Chief Operating Officer (C.O.O.) of the City of Hartford; Jeanette Weldon, CHESLA Executive Director; Yesenia Torres-Rivera, CHESLA Program Coordinator



Maximum awards are \$3,000 for a full-time student and \$1,500 for a half-time student enrolled at a degree granting institution. The awardees represent 74 Connecticut towns and cities and 23 Connecticut colleges and universities.

Jeanette W. Weldon, Executive Director for CHESLA stated, “CHESLA is proud to support Connecticut residents and students as families seek to recover from the economic impact of the pandemic and navigate these uncertain times. We hope these awards will keep these students on the path toward a successful career.”

Josh Hurlock, CHESLA’s Assistant Director, added “Many of the scholarship recipients have incredible stories of great perseverance and strength. These awards demonstrate CHESLA’s unwavering commitment to supporting Connecticut students and the State’s workforce development goals.”



CHESLA Scholarship recipients at the CHESLA Scholarship Ceremony, held August 4th in the Yard Goats Club at Dunkin’ Donuts Park in Hartford

Scholarship recipients, thanked CHESLA saying:

- “It is because of your generosity and support that I will be able to turn my dream into a reality.”
– Danielle



- “Your generosity has inspired me, and I hope one day I will be able to help others achieve their goals as you have helped me.”
– Geovani
- “Receiving this scholarship acts as not only a gift, but as motivation to exceed in school and in my career.”
– Amari

CHESLA’s scholarship application for students pursuing a healthcare or manufacturing certificate, rather than a degree, opened on July 1st.

The certificate program scholarship awards are \$1,250. Applications are considered and awarded on a first come, first serve basis until funds run out. Non-credit certificate programs offered by state or non-profit higher education institutions qualify for this scholarship.



From left to right: Jeanette Weldon, CHESLA Executive Director; Josh Hurlock, CHESLA Assistant Director; Yesenia Torres-Rivera, CHESLA Program Coordinator; Shannon Reynolds, CHESLA Portfolio Specialist

CHESLA serves as a leading resource for Connecticut students as they plan their college education by providing financing and tools to help students and families make informed decisions. CHESLA works to enhance the competitiveness of Connecticut institutions of higher education and helps the State meet its workforce needs by providing grants and additional financing options to Connecticut students. CHESLA’s scholarship program has disbursed \$10.4 million, impacting 5,529 students since its inception in 2015.