



Jeannette Rankin
FOUNDATION

Transforming Futures Through Education

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Jeannette Rankin Foundation National Scholar Grant Program Awarded \$60,000 from The Coca-Cola Foundation to Help Women 35-plus Pursue College Degrees

March 1, 2022, Athens, Ga. — The Coca-Cola Foundation awarded the Jeannette Rankin Foundation \$60,000 — funding that will be used to award 22 additional education grants to women aged 35 and older who are pursuing their first associate’s or bachelor’s degree. The Jeannette Rankin Foundation provides unrestricted grants to students across the country who identify as women or nonbinary, are 35 and older and demonstrate financial need.

To date, The Coca-Cola Foundation has awarded more than \$400,000 to the Jeannette Rankin Foundation, as part of its initiative to empower women to thrive through higher education, skills training, business literacy and entrepreneurship.

“We are proud to support the Jeannette Rankin Foundation and its efforts to empower women to transform their futures through education,” said Saadia Madsbjerg, President of The Coca-Cola Foundation. “Attending college later in life comes with many hurdles, and we commend the JRF Scholars who are working hard to achieve their degrees and create a better future for themselves, their families and their communities.”

The Jeannette Rankin Foundation was founded in 1976 at the bequest of Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to the U.S. Congress and the only woman who voted to ratify the 19th Amendment that gave women the national right to vote. The organization has awarded more than \$4 million in education grants since its founding. According to the Institute for Women’s Policy Research, JRF grant recipients exceed graduation and persistence rates of their peers by more than 60%, with 87% either graduating or continuing their education.

JRF’s individual \$2,500 grants have an immense impact on the day-to-lives of recipients and their families. The average recipient makes under \$20,000 per year while in school, an income that supports herself and her family. Unlike traditional scholarships, JRF grants are unrestricted and can be used in whatever way students choose to reach graduation and ease college debt, from books and supplies to childcare and transportation.

“JRF Scholars, who are over the age of 35 and striving to complete their college education, know that education is economic empowerment,” said Karen Sterk, CEO of the Jeannette Rankin Foundation. “When students can take care of life’s necessities through a JRF grant, they can flourish, focus on their studies and stay on course to achieving their degrees and professional aspirations. We are exceedingly grateful

to the Coca-Cola Foundation for their support. We could not do this life-changing work without our supporters.”

About the Jeannette Rankin Foundation

The Jeannette Rankin Foundation provides unrestricted Scholar Grants to students who identify as women or nonbinary, are 35 and older and demonstrate financial need. Inspired by their namesake, Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to the U.S. Congress, the Jeannette Rankin Foundation transforms futures through education. rankinfoundation.org

About the Coca-Cola Foundation

Since its inception in 1984, The Coca-Cola Foundation has awarded more than \$1 billion in grants to protect the environment, empower women to thrive and enhance the well-being of people and communities worldwide. coca-colacompany.com/shared-future/coca-cola-foundation

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