

Dorothy Osborn Barry

Educational Fund



A Legacy

In 1995, 91-year-old Dorothy Osborn Barry, a former teacher in Aurora Public Schools (APS), approached the Aurora Education Foundation (AEF) about establishing an educational fund “for women who demonstrate a desire and need to make a second start in their lives.”

When asked what motivated her to establish this fund, Barry said, “In 1941, I had to go out on my own, and I didn’t have many resources. So, I thought if I could lighten the load for other women faced with those circumstances, it would be nice.”

Knowing how Dorothy Osborn Barry dedicated her life to education and financial independence makes it easy to understand why she founded the educational fund that bears her name. Her first teaching position was in a one-room rural school in 1923. Later, she involved herself in church, community, and PTA work, eventually becoming a district PTA president before returning to teaching.

She began attending college in 1942 at the age of 37, and received a bachelor’s degree from the Colorado State College of Education (now UNC) in 1948. She added a master’s degree in speech pathology from the University of Wisconsin in 1951, and completed all but the foreign language requirement for a doctorate degree.

Barry taught in Aurora Public Schools from 1952 until her retirement in 1970. She served 10 years on the State Board of the Council for Exceptional Children and seven years on the Adams County Mental Health Board. She conducted workshops and seminars for teachers at numerous state conventions, and wrote several booklets, games, and curricula for Aurora Public Schools. In 1969, she won Aurora’s “Teacher of the Year” award and was first runner-up in the state competition.

Her life after retirement was equally busy. In 1980, she was named “Miss Senior Denver,” and in 1982, she received a national award for having given the most volunteer hours of any retired teacher in the area. She also taught a high school class in creative writing and published many stories and poems.

“For women who need and desire to better themselves”

Aurora Education Foundation
15701 E. 1st Avenue, #206
Aurora, CO 80011
303-326-2054

www.auroraedfoundation.org

Thank you for applying for the Dorothy Barry Osborn Educational Fund!

The Dorothy Osborn Barry Educational Fund is intended for women who have overcome obstacles in their lives, and are determined to change their direction and better themselves by pursuing a course of education or training that will help them become self-reliant.

Awards may be requested for tuition, fees, books, and supplies related to a course of study. Requests may also be made for local transportation, dependent care and other essential services necessary for the successful pursuit of personal education or training. No funds will be given directly to applicants, but rather to educational institutions, rental agencies, utility departments, etc. and must be expended within twelve months. Awards are made on a semester by semester basis, with priority being given to applicants who have not received previous assistance from this fund.

Recipients of the Dorothy Osborn Barry Educational Fund will be selected based upon the application, a personal interview and the applicant's:

- Determination to change her circumstance.
- Potential for success.
- Financial need.
- Attitude and character, not aptitude.
- Ability to express herself verbally and in writing.

Applicant Criteria

Applicants must be women who:

- Demonstrate the desire and need to make a second start in their lives.
- Have received a high school diploma or GED, OR present proof of admission to an institution of higher learning or trade school. *This requirement is waived for young mothers enrolled in high school or seeking their GED.*
- Are citizens of the United States.
- Are divorced, if their second start involves an abusive spousal relationship.

Application Procedure

Complete the application form and attach the following:

- Proof of graduation from high school, of earning a GED, or of being accepted for enrollment by an institution of higher learning, trade or occupational school. *This requirement is waived for young mothers enrolled in high school or seeking their GED.*
- A personally written essay, of 1000 words or less, expressing a desire for a second chance and determination to be successful in that effort.
- Two letters of recommendation.
- **Submit one (1) complete original application packet (application form, essay, letters of recommendation, etc.) and five (5) complete copied packets. Collate and staple the original as well as all copies. AEF must receive all six (6) packets for your application to be considered.**

Applications are accepted all year, but reviewed prior to each semester.

Please submit application materials to:

**Aurora Education Foundation
15701 E. 1st Avenue, #206
Aurora, CO 80011
303-326-2054**

Dorothy Osborn Barry Educational Fund Application Form

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Address _____
(Street) (Apt. No.)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Length of time at above address _____ Date of Birth _____
mm/dd/yyyy

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Previous Address _____
(Street) (Apt. No.)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Check one: I am a U.S. citizen. _____ Yes _____ No

References (Maximum of one relative):

Name _____

Address _____
(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Relationship to Applicant _____

Name _____

Address _____
(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Relationship to Applicant _____

Name _____

Address _____
(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Relationship to Applicant _____

Dorothy Osborn Barry Educational Fund Application Form

(Continued)

Briefly describe your career goals.

What training or education is needed to achieve your career goals and what is your timeline?

What assistance is needed to achieve your career goals? (i.e. tuition, clothing, daycare, rent/housing, medical care, etc.)?

Please itemize the amount of funding and the purpose for which it will be used. Include assistance you are receiving in the form of grants or financial aid, and identify the source and amount. (Attach separate page if needed.)

Purpose

Amount

Total Funds Requested: _____