

Youth Impact

Making a difference...one youth at a time.

More orphans will go to colleges this year

Usually very few orphans receive full scholarships to study in colleges. One of the main reasons is that their educational level is very low; however, this year we made a special emphasis on preparing them for national tests and teaching how to fill out applications and write essays.

Last year out of 95 orphanage graduates only **9** got accepted to colleges/universities. This year it is three times more - **27** students will go to colleges with fully covered tuition and monthly stipend (Ulan - 5, Sarymoldaeva -13, PTL - 7, Savva - 2).

Majority of the grants have been provided by the government but 9 of them have been granted by two private foundations in Almaty started by local businessmen and foreign embassies in Kazakhstan that give 100 scholarships to orphans and youth from low-income families in Kazakhstan.

All the youth (on the photo) working on their essays trying to demonstrate their leadership potential got accepted to colleges/universities thanks to those foundations. Now they are required to keep their grades high and participate in volunteer activities for the good of the society. It can be social service projects at NGOs like teaching children, helping at orphanages, or cleaning of local parks.



Diana, 18 is one of the brightest students leaving Sarymoldaeva orphanage this year. Her dream is to become a professional diplomat and represent Kazakhstan in other countries.

Before she finished high school she started taking language classes to prepare for university. Out of all the orphanage graduates this year she scored the highest on the test. Although she was not able to receive a government grant she applied for financial aid to two private foundations that provide financial aid to orphans and youth from low-income families to study at colleges/universities.

Diana's applications have been approved by both foundations and she made a choice to study at one of the top universities in Kazakhstan KazNU in Almaty. She is provided with a dorm and a monthly stipend to cover her educational and living expenses. Her hard work and persistence brought their results.