

WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES PROGRAM

# *Dorothy E. Lee*

SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANT

Funding opportunities for  
nontraditional women students



ILLINOIS STATE  
UNIVERSITY

*Illinois' first public university*

**D**orothy E. Lee attended Eureka College following high school graduation. After one quarter she dropped out and returned to Litchfield, her hometown. Ten years later she returned to college at Illinois State Normal University (ISNU)—the beginning of a life in education. After receiving her Bachelor of Science in education in 1959, she began teaching sociology and psychology at Proviso East High School in Maywood. She taught there for three years while taking night and summer classes at Northwestern University.

Upon receiving her Master of Arts in sociology in 1962, Professor Lee was hired at ISNU on a tenure line. She completed doctoral work in sociology at the University of Iowa on a Danforth Teaching Grant.

During her tenure at ISNU, Professor Lee taught courses in minority relations and social psychology, served on numerous committees and task forces, and published in professional journals. For six years she chaired the Departments of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work. During that time the anthropology major was first offered, the social work major was approved, and Community Research Services was developed.

Professor Lee was a founding member and president of the Women Faculty Association. She was a president of the Illinois Sociological Association and served on the board of the Midwest Sociological Society. She was on the original committee to form a women's studies minor and chaired a 1987 task force to determine the direction of what was then called the Women's Studies Program.

As her 1991 retirement neared she served as acting chair for the History, Foreign Languages, and Political Science Departments. Since retirement she has spent her time writing—as of 2004, she has published three novels: *Revision* (2001), *Under My Hat* (2002), and *Another Hat: A Sequel* (2003).

Professor Lee's decision to attend ISNU as a non-traditional student changed her life, and she wants that to happen for other nontraditional women students. In 2004, she created an endowed fund for nontraditional women students. The purpose of this fund is to provide scholarships for women 25 and older to begin a college education or to return to college to continue studies toward a degree. The endowment also provides grants for emergency funds to help women 25 years of age and older who are enrolled at Illinois State to fund incidental expenses.

## **THE DOROTHY E. LEE SCHOLARSHIP**

An annual award of between \$500 and \$1,200 given to a promising nontraditional woman student, the scholarship is administered by the Women's and Gender Studies Program with the assistance of a committee of women representatives from the School of Social Work and the Sociology & Anthropology Department selected by the director of Women's and Gender Studies. It is presented each year at the Women's Mentoring Network Conference and the College of Arts and Sciences Awards Ceremony. The recipient of the scholarship is eligible to apply for the scholarship again in a subsequent year, providing she is a continuing student and has demonstrated good academic achievement by maintaining a 3.0 cumulative grade point average.

For applications, deadlines, and further information, visit the Women's and Gender Studies website: [WGS.IllinoisState.edu/Scholarships/dorotheelee-scholarship.php](https://WGS.IllinoisState.edu/Scholarships/dorotheelee-scholarship.php).

### **SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

- Be full- or part-time female undergraduate student 25 years of age or older
- Be enrolled in a degree program or admitted as an adult learner with the intention to enroll in a degree program at Illinois State University
- Be a student who is beginning her college education or returning to college education to resume studies to complete her degree at Illinois State University
- Demonstrate financial need, as determined by the Financial Aid office
- Submit an essay describing the student's desire to earn a college degree
- Preference given to a woman student from Montgomery County, south-central Illinois, and/or a non-metropolitan area

## THE DOROTHY E. LEE GRANT

The purpose of this grant is to help current Illinois State University women students who are 25 years of age or older fund incidental expenses, such as assistance with childcare, books and supplies, transportation, tutoring, and the like.

Applications are accepted all year and will be awarded until the grant fund has been depleted for the year.

Grant applications are available from the Women's and Gender Studies website:

[WGS.IllinoisState.edu/Scholarships/dorotheelee-scholarship.php](https://WGS.IllinoisState.edu/Scholarships/dorotheelee-scholarship.php).

### GRANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Be full- or part-time female undergraduate student 25 years of age or older
- Be enrolled in a degree program or admitted as an adult learner with the intention to enroll in a degree program at Illinois State University
- Submit a grant request that identifies the need for money for incidental expenses, such as assistance with childcare, books and supplies, transportation, tutoring, and the like

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