The paperwork just became easier for the Frontiers International Springfield Club.

The group had awarded scholarships to college bound students in the past, but in 2004 it joined forces with the Community Foundation to create the Frontiers International Springfield Club Scholarship Fund.

“I know it will make it easier,” said James Boykin, then president of the Frontiers International Springfield Club. “It’s a way we hope to increase donations to the fund and build up a stable fund, as well as have the donations be tax deductible.”

The Frontiers Club, which includes approximately 30 members, was intent on creating a new delivery method for the scholarships when the work of the Community Foundation was brought to its attention by club member and Community Foundation board member Doug King.

“We were debating to start a 503(c) foundation when we heard about the Community Foundation and it was an easy thing to do,” Boykin said. “We figured why go through the headache of all the paperwork (of starting our own foundation).” They believed the presence of the Community Foundation would allow the club to increase its donation drive, since all donations to the fund at the Community Foundation are tax deductible

The club always attempts to award multiple scholarships. The club started awarding scholarships to help young participants of its Junior Frontiers Club with whom club members had been working. The scholarships are traditionally awarded to African-American students, but the club has expanded its outreach in recent years.

“We expanded it with the idea of helping young people if they apply but also award scholarships in Sangamon County to those who have a need, primarily African-American, but not necessarily,” Boykin said.

The Community Foundation is proud to be the steward of this fund.