

TPHS Scholarship Application 202%

Information, Instructions and a Sample Application

WHAT ARE THESE SCHOLARSHIPS?

The TPHS Scholarship Fund is an all-volunteer 501c3 organization. Our mission is to recognize Torrey Pines High School seniors for their achievements and future promise. We encourage community supporters to donate local dollars dedicated to scholarships. 100% of community-donated funds are distributed as scholarships each year. These scholarships are one-time grants generally ranging from \$500 to \$1000. Certain scholarships are earmarked with donor-specified criteria (financial need, interest in a particular career or field of study, etc.), and others are not. In general, scholarships recognize students' involvement in a diversity of activities and interests, including employment.

WHO CAN APPLY? You are eligible to apply if you are a TPHS senior, with a grade point average of 2.5 or better, and you are planning to continue your education in the 2021-22 academic year at an institution of higher learning: a university, college, community college, or trade school. **You should apply even if you are considering taking a gap year.**

WHAT ARE THE SELECTION CRITERIA? Applicants are judged on the basis of: an **essay** they write for a specific prompt, and a description of the **activities** they have engaged in during their high school years, outside of the classroom. Except for the required minimum (2.5), grade point averages are not considered. Some special circumstances may be considered, in accordance with criteria that may be set by individual scholarship donors.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS?

An applicant starts the process by naming two TPHS faculty members to write recommendations, and by completing an online application that includes a brief essay and a description of extracurricular activities. On the basis of this information, we (TPHS Scholarship Fund board members) will select a group of **finalists** to be **interviewed**. Students remain anonymous through the application process until the interviews. **Interviews** are conducted in small groups, during the afternoon/evening of the **week before TPHS Spring Break**. After the interviews, we will select **recipients** for all the **available 2021 scholarship awards**. The number of awards depends, of course, on how much money we have on hand; as noted above, every dollar donated from our community is distributed to the scholarship recipients. If you are chosen for an scholarship, you will be notified by email on or about May 1st. You will be invited to the **Awards Ceremony**, but you will not know exactly which award you have won until you get there. It is important for all recipients to attend the Awards Ceremony, which will be held on **in late May in the early evening**. Families and other guests are welcome. Splendid refreshments are provided in a festive atmosphere; this is all provided by Scholarship Fund board members personally; no donated funds are used for anything other than scholarships.

HOW DO YOU SUBMIT YOUR ONLINE APPLICATIONS? You start this process by following the **Application link** on our website. You must set up an **account** at **Formsite**. Using your account, you can prepare your application for submission gradually, **saving** your partial work and returning to your account as many times as you wish, until your application is as perfect as you want it to be. Then you will **submit** it. Note the difference between **save** and **submit**. Once your application is **submitted** it cannot be retrieved or modified.

- Your account at Formsite is for the exclusive purpose of sending us your application; your information will never be used for any other purpose.

- The main two areas of interest to us in scoring your applications are: an **essay**, and a summary of your **activities** beyond the classroom. An opportunity to tell us about any **special circumstances** that may affect your application is also provided and is optional.

WHY PRINT A SAMPLE APPLICATION?

- Because of the way Formsite asks you for your information, it is difficult to keep the big picture in mind, the way your application will later appear to us. Therefore we are providing you with a PDF document ("**Sample Application**") as a navigation guide. We suggest printing it out at the beginning and using it as a **scratch pad** to organize your data for entry.

HOW DO YOU REQUEST FACULTY RECOMMENDATIONS?

- Your application will not be complete until you have **requested recommendations** from **two TPHS faculty members** (teachers or counselors). You will make this request by following the link on our website. This link automatically generates requests to the two persons you have selected, and they will respond electronically in a specific format. At the same time, the link sends a **notification** to us and a **receipt** to you. We must receive this notification before we consider your application complete. If (as unlikely as this may be) your chosen faculty person fails to respond to us, we will follow up and not hold that against you. But please do **make your request early**, to give the teachers a chance to make a thoughtful reply.

ALSO NOTE:

If you are an award recipient, you must certify that any funds you receive will be applied exclusively toward the costs of attending a post-secondary educational institution for the 2020-21 academic year; this may include tuition, room, board, books, transportation, a computer, or any other justifiable educational expense. In addition, all awardees must give consent to TPHS Scholarship Fund to use their names and the name of the post-secondary institution they will be attending, for press releases and public announcements.

WHAT IS THE DEADLINE?

Applications will be accepted until **midnight, Sunday, March 8th, 2020**.

ANY QUESTIONS?

- Direct all questions to us at: TPHSSF.Applications.2020@gmail.com

READY?

- Print this PDF Document, including the "Sample Application" which follows.
- Go back to our website, whence you came, and follow:
 - Link 2 – to **request recommendations**, and
 - Link 3 – to start, perfect, and ultimately submit your **online application**.

SAMPLE APPLICATION FOLLOWS THIS PAGE

TPHS Scholarship Fund Application for Scholarship 2020

Sample

APPLICANT DATA

| | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Mr. | _____ | | |
| Ms. | _____ | | |
| Name | (last) | (first) | (m.i.) Student E-mail Address |
| _____ | | _____ | _____ |
| Home Telephone Number | Student Cell Phone | | # of Years at TPHS |
| Name of parent/guardian _____ | | Parent/guardian E-mail Address _____ | |
| Permanent mailing address of parent/student: _____ | | | |
| (Street) | | | |
| _____ | | (City) | (State) (Zip) |
| My overall GPA (through 7th semester) is 2.5 or higher. yes _____ no _____ | | | |
| Probable major _____ | | | |
| Probable career _____ | | | |

RESTRICTED AND UNRESTRICTED AWARDS

Approximately 40 scholarships are available to be awarded this year. Awards generally range from \$500 to \$1,000. The awards are divided into two categories, as follows:

AWARDS WITH SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

Some applicants may be eligible for special restricted awards. **“Restricted” means that the donors of these awards have specified criteria for eligibility.** To help the scholarship committee determine which scholarships you may be eligible for, please check any/all of the following criteria which apply to you.

- Male
- Female
- Resident of Carmel Valley (zip code 92130)
- Participated for at least one season in North Shore Girls Softball League
- Attended the Rancho Santa Fe School
- TPHS Athlete (*which sport(s)?*) _____
- Enjoy Surfing
- Musician (*what variety?*) _____
- Intend to become a scientist
- Intend to study business
- Intend to become an engineering student
- Intend to become an artist
- Intend to become a writer
- Intend to become a teacher/educator
- First in family to attend college

UNRESTRICTED AWARDS

All TPHS applicants are eligible to compete for the “unrestricted” awards. The scholarship committee will **automatically** consider **all** applicants for these awards.

No scholarship recipient will receive more than one award.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES & EXPERIENCE/EMPLOYMENT

Outside the classroom during the past four years list your activities **in the order of importance to you**. Please estimate, to the best of your ability, the average number of hours per week and weeks per year, **as shown in the shaded example row below**.

1. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Athletics; performing arts; clubs/organizations

| Activity | Description of Activity <i>Note any leadership positions</i> | 9 th | 10 th | 11 th | 12 th | hours /week | weeks /year |
|----------|---|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Soccer | JV (9 th & 10 th), Varsity (11 th & 12 th), captain (12 th) | X | X | X | X | 10 | 14 |
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Is there any additional information about your extracurricular activities that you feel you were unable to share in this section? (40 word limit)

I participate at Golf Tournaments outside of school.

2. VOLUNTEER WORK, COMMUNITY SERVICE and UNPAID INTERNSHIPS

| Organization | Description of Service or Work <i>Note any leadership positions</i> | 9 th | 10 th | 11 th | 12 th | hours /week | weeks /year |
|--------------|--|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | | | | | | |
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Is there any additional information about your volunteer work, community service or unpaid internships that you feel you were unable to share in this section? (40 word limit)

3. PAID EMPLOYMENT during the school year and/or during the preceding summers

| Name of Business | Position Held/Responsibilities | 9 th | 10 th | 11 th | 12 th | hours /week | weeks /year |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | | | | | | |
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Is there any additional information about your paid employment during the school year or summers that you feel you were unable to share in this section? *(40 word limit)*

Essay

Imagine that you are given the opportunity to visit a place and time in the past, not just as an observer but as a participant. In a well-written, grammatically correct, brief (not to exceed 350 words) essay, please tell us what time and place you would choose. What attracts you to that place? What do you expect to see there? What will you do?

Place your essay in the space below. Essays will be evaluated on content, conventions (grammar, syntax, spelling, etc.) and personal style. Limit yourself to 350 well-chosen words. To evaluate your work fairly we must not know who you are, so please do not include any information, such as family names, that would pinpoint your identity.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Fill out this section ONLY if you qualify for special circumstance consideration. If these special circumstances do not apply to you, please skip to the next page.

Special Circumstance Criteria: Some students have to overcome adverse personal circumstances that make pursuing educational and life goals particularly challenging. Special circumstances could include serious illness, disabilities, recent tragedies, major adverse financial circumstances, etc.

Describe how and when any unusual family or personal circumstances have affected your achievements in high school, work experience, or your participation in high school and community activities. (Please type the essay in the space provided or copy and paste your essay in the space below. Your answer should not exceed **150** words.)

SIGNATURE PAGE

ALL APPLICANTS PLEASE READ AND SIGN:

I certify that all the information I have provided on this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I am aware that any falsification subjects me to disqualification.

I agree that if I am offered and do accept an award from TPHS Scholarship Fund (previously known as TPHS Dollars for Scholars), TPHS Scholarship Fund may use my name, the amount of the award, and the name of the post-secondary institution I will attend in press releases, public announcements, and other fundraising or promotional materials in all media including the Internet. I certify that the scholarship I may receive will be used exclusively for the expenses of post-secondary education for the 2020-21 academic year.

I understand that if I am offered and do accept a scholarship, I am expected to attend the Awards Ceremony which will be held on the evening of Wednesday, May 20th, 2020.

Signature of Applicant: *(electronic check box)*

Signature of Parent/Guardian : *(electronic check box)*

Note: When you submit your electronic application you will see a “success” notice and you will receive a confirming message in the inbox of the email you supply with your application.