

High School Senior Scholarship Guidelines 2016-2017



Texas PTA offers \$1000 scholarships to **graduating high school seniors** in Texas who will be enrolled full-time in an accredited college or university or a technical institute in the summer or fall semester immediately following applicant's high school graduation. All funds for the scholarships are provided by gifts to the Texas PTA Endowment Fund.

Through our scholarship program, Texas PTA works to support students who are focused on achieving career goals through higher education. In evaluating each application, the Scholarship Subcommittee will also consider service and participation in school activities, community involvement and scholastic merit.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicant must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Applicant must be a graduating high school senior from a school in Texas.
- Applicant must be enrolled in a high school with a Local PTA/PTSA in good standing with Texas PTA. Applicant must be a current member* of that same PTA/PTSA by December 1.
*You must have joined your PTA/PTSA on or after August 1, 2016 to meet current membership requirement.
- Applicant must plan to be enrolled full-time in an accredited college or university or a technical institute in the summer or fall semester immediately following high school graduation.
- Applicant cannot have an immediate family member on the Texas PTA Board of Directors or staff.
- A completed electronic application **must be received by December 1, 2016** to be eligible for consideration. Application can be found on the Texas PTA website under 'Programs'.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION

All documents should be submitted in Microsoft Word or PDF format. In order to qualify, the applicant must complete the online application which includes the following:

- A résumé, limited to one page, listing school activities, community involvement, special recognitions and awards the applicant received in high school. Also, list any work experience during the high school years. (40 points total)
- A minimum 500-word essay (20 total points each item) that includes the following:
(Times New Roman, 12-point font, double spaced, 1-inch margins)
 - Future goals relating to education and/or career
 - How PTA has impacted applicant's education
 - How parent involvement has impacted applicant's education

Note: Combine résumé and essay and save as one document, résumé first, essay second.

- Copy of high school transcript, does not have to be "official".
- Two letters of recommendation (20 points total)
 - Name, email address, and phone number of two individuals submitting a letter of recommendation. Please note that one of the references must be a campus faculty member or administrator.

Upon completion of the online application, each of your references will be contacted immediately via an automated email response. As many email systems filter communications from new senders, we suggest applicants contact references as soon as possible to confirm receipt of request for a recommendation letter. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that both letters of recommendation are received within fourteen (14) days of application submission.

SELECTION AND DISBURSEMENT

Selection is made by the Scholarship Subcommittee of the Texas PTA Board of Directors. Results will be published on the Texas PTA website April 1, 2017. Recipients will be notified by email and U.S. mail with further instruction for submitting documentation for funds disbursement. Requested documentation must be submitted to the Texas PTA State Office by June 30, 2017. All disbursement checks will be processed in July and paid directly to the educational institution. Failure to meet the June 30 deadline will result in forfeiture of the scholarship.

**All entries submitted to Texas PTA become the property of Texas PTA.
Decisions of the Scholarship Subcommittee are final.**

www.txpta.org
1-800-TALK PTA