

BELLWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH SCHOLARSHIP FUND CORPORATION



Application Guidelines

Purpose of Scholarship Fund:

The purpose of this Scholarship Fund Corporation is to provide some financial assistance for education to high school graduates that plan to attend college for the first time. The focus and priority of this corporation is on students who demonstrate a desire to continue their education, but have financial barriers that hinder them.

Qualifications:

This program is open to anyone who wishes to apply and meets the qualifications.

This Corporation does NOT discriminate against anyone based on race, age, color of skin, sex, religion, national origin, veterans or individuals with disabilities.

To apply for a scholarship, you must meet all of the following requirements:

- Be a United States citizen
- Be a resident of the Village of Bellwood in the State of Illinois
- Be a high school graduate
- This must be your first time attending college
- You must be accepted and enrolled as a full or part time student at a two (2) year college or a four (4) year university of your choice, which offers a degree program.

You must submit a typed essay, 250 words or more, on one of the following subjects:

- Community
- Education
- Personal Goals
- Crime or Criminal Behavior
- Other (*topic of your choice*)

You must have three (3) people, not related to you, complete and submit the Recommender form for the current year.

Although not required, it would be helpful if you were involved in some type of after school program that would help others achieve their goals.

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APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Your scholarship application must be returned to this office No Later Than April 15. **NO EXCEPTION**

Your application should be **typed or printed in black ink.** All questions must be answered accurately. If any questions in this application package do not apply to you, write DNA for your answer.

In addition, you are required to submit the following information with your application:

- Official copy of your GED certificate or certified copy of your high school transcript (*and diploma, when available, for high school seniors*) or certified copy of your college transcript (*college students*)
 - Certified letter of acceptance and enrollment confirmation from the college of your choice (college letterhead)
 - Two (2) forms of identification (copies of driver's license, state ID, passport, birth certificate, etc.)
2. Your scholarship application and all documents requested should be mailed or hand delivered to:

Bellwood Neighborhood Watch Scholarship Fund Corporation
3200 Washington Boulevard
Bellwood, IL 60104

Fax: (708) 547-4485
Email: bnwsfc@gmail.com

3. **Incomplete applications and/or documents not received by the deadline will be denied.**

RESTRICTIONS:

1. Children and relatives of the members of the Bellwood Neighborhood Watch Scholarship Board of Directors and Community Action Group program are prohibited from applying for a scholarship grant.
2. Individuals granted scholarships cannot transfer granted amounts to any other individual. Any money not used for the purpose of educational expenses to the college as indicated on your application is to be returned to the Corporation.
3. Any application not returned by the specified deadline, **April 15th** will not be considered.

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SCHOLARSHIP REVIEW COMMITTEE

1. The Scholarship Review Committee (hereafter, referred to as Committee) will review all applications and documents submitted. They will select applicants based on financial need, academic achievement, and or certain other criteria. The Executive Board has the final decision in making the determination of who will receive a scholarship.
2. The Committee will notify applicant(s) of their decision in writing, and or by telephone. You should allow six (6) – eight (8) weeks for a reply.
3. All information received from applicants will be kept confidential and will only be used for the sole purpose of determining if an applicant will qualify for a grant.
4. **Students who are granted scholarships must complete at least 20 hours of community service.**
5. The amount of a scholarship will be based on the availability of funds and final determination will be up to the Executive Board. **The amount granted will be paid in two or more installments directly to the college.**
6. You will be required to attend a mandatory scholarship meeting, which is usually held in July of each year. **Recipients who fail to comply with this requirement could be disqualified or forfeit the opportunity.**
7. All monies awarded will be made payable to the college or university of their choice.
8. Recipients, who are receiving checks for the first time, will receive the first installment by August 30th. If any recipient has not completed all the requirements he/she will be advised of the next procedure, and therefore, will not receive a check. Checks will be mailed directly to your school.
9. Financial assistance after the first year will be based on your continued financial need, academic achievement, and monies available in the Scholarship Fund account.