



## 2019 Scholarship Application

### Scholarship Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

1. The applicant must fulfill high school graduation requirements as part of the graduating class of 2019.
2. The applicant has been accepted to an accredited college or university and plans to attend that institution full time during the 2019/20 academic year. Students planning to take “gap years” in the 2019/20 academic year will not be considered.
3. The applicant must be either: (i) a resident of Newton or Needham, even if matriculating elsewhere, or (ii) attending high school in Newton or Needham, even if residing elsewhere.
4. The application must be submitted by your principal or guidance counselor to the Newton-Needham Regional Chamber and hand delivered to or mailed to the Chamber (postmark date) by 5:00 p.m. on **March 29, 2019**.
5. The committee will determine in its discretion what criteria to apply in making the award, and what weight to give each criterion. Criteria that have been considered in the past (and that the committee anticipates will be accorded significance again this year) include the following:
  - The most significant criterion in the past has been a compelling “story” that shows that the scholarship will make a meaningful difference to the candidate’s ability to finance college and that shows the candidate’s ability to overcome challenges.
  - Another important consideration is whether the application shows a history of demonstrated effort (either academically, in extracurricular activities, in work, etc.), which indicate that the candidate has a good chance of succeeding in college.
  - Recommendations from teachers, guidance counselors, and others who have worked with the candidate and can comment on the applicant’s character and worthiness to receive a scholarship. Note that, although the standard school guidance counsel recommendation is sufficient, it is our experience that having additional recommendations from teachers or other adults who know the applicant more personally tends to enhance the application. Also, having a recommendation from a teacher who can speak to the candidate’s academic abilities is important.
6. Children and grandchildren of employees and/or directors of the Chamber are not eligible to receive a Chamber scholarship.
7. The scholarship recipient must present proof of successful completion of their first college semester. Scholarship payment will be sent to the school to be applied towards tuition or related costs. The Newton-Needham Regional Chamber reserves the right to contact the college or university to determine the best method of payment to maximize the benefit to the recipient.

## Instructions to Applicant:

Please complete pages 3 and 4 of this package and return to the Newton-Needham Regional Chamber along with the required **Essay** of 300-350 words and a **Letter of Recommendation** from a teacher, employer, guidance counselor, or other person other than a relative. You may submit up to three such Letters of Recommendation. We strongly recommend that at least one of your Letters of Recommendation be from a person who knows you well (e.g., a teacher, coach, employer, or close family friend). It is our experience that such letters typically give the Scholarship Committee a much better sense of who you are and what your circumstances are than a general letter from a school official who might not know you as well.

Do not fold these materials but rather submit them to your Guidance Counselor in a large manila envelope with postage stamps attached. Address the envelope to:

Newton Needham Regional Chamber  
ATTN: Scholarship Committee  
281 Needham St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Newton, MA 02464

Please request that your Guidance Counselor include a copy of your official transcript and a statement to the effect that you are expected to graduate as part of the graduating class of 2019.

Request that the Counselor assure that the envelope be sealed and hand delivered or mailed to the Chamber of (postmark date) prior to 5:00 PM on **March 29, 2019**.

All information contained in the submittal will be kept confidential.

## Instructions to Principal/Guidance Counselor

We have instructed the scholarship applicant to provide you with a stamped, addressed envelope containing a completed scholarship application, an essay and a letter or letters of recommendation in support of the application for a scholarship. We would appreciate your providing the applicant's **official transcript**, including midyear senior grades and rank in class if available, and a statement that the student is expected to graduate as part of the class of 2019. The envelope should already be addressed to the Newton-Needham Regional Chamber as follows:

Newton-Needham Regional Chamber  
Attn: Scholarship Committee  
281 Needham Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Newton, MA 02464

**The applications are due (postmark date) by 5:00 p.m. on March 29, 2019**

Your cooperation is deeply appreciated. For further inquiries or questions, please contact Tiffany Chen at 617-244-5300 or [tchen@nnchamber.com](mailto:tchen@nnchamber.com).

**These instructions and application can be found online at [www.nnchamber.com](http://www.nnchamber.com)**



**2019 Scholarship Application**

NAME OF APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_, MA

TELEPHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

IF KNOWN AT THIS TIME, WHAT COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY DO YOU PLAN TO ATTEND:

\_\_\_\_\_

IF NOT KNOWN, LIST YOUR TOP THREE COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY CHOICES:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

LIST SCHOOL, COMMUNITY, ATHLETIC, AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

LIST YOUR PERSONAL INTERESTS AND TALENTS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SPECIFY BELOW HOW A CHAMBER SCHOLARSHIP WOULD ASSIST YOU IN ATTENDING COLLEGE.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(THE ANSWER TO THE ABOVE QUESTION MAY BE PROVIDED ON A SEPARATE, ATTACHED SHEET)

SPECIFY BELOW ANYTHING ELSE YOU THINK THE COMMITTEE MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER IN EVALUATING YOUR APPLICATION. THIS QUESTION IS OPTIONAL.

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(THE ANSWER TO THE ABOVE QUESTION MAY BE PROVIDED ON A SEPARATE, ATTACHED SHEET)

The following is to be completed by the applicant only.

**Please attach an essay of between 300 and 350 words describing one of the following:**

- 1. An important experience relating to community service that you performed during your high school years;**
- 2. How you demonstrated leadership ability either in or out of school;**
- 3. A difficult personal or academic challenge you faced and how you overcame it.**

It is not mandatory, but you may also attach a statement of any other facts or circumstances that you want the Committee to know or that you think would be relevant to the Committee's consideration of your application.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION GIVEN ABOVE IS CORRECT AND THAT THE ESSAY IS MY OWN ORIGINAL MATERIAL.

STUDENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_