



Providing Scholarships to Deserving Alabama Students

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website: [http:// www.smithscholarships.com](http://www.smithscholarships.com)

August 29, 2013

Dear Guidance Counselors and School Officials:

We need your support for the Smith Scholarships. Applications were not received from several counties last year.

The Smith Scholarship Foundation is a private operating Foundation established by Mignon C. Smith. Miss Smith, who never had children of her own, wanted to give students who had helped others in their community, or their families, a chance to receive a college education. Since its inception in 2005, The Smith Foundation has awarded over 100 full scholarships to Alabama high school seniors. Our Foundation is the largest private scholarship provider awarding scholarships in the State of Alabama.

The Smith Foundation Scholarships are designed to help young Alabamians obtain a higher education and fulfill their personal goals to become leaders and give back to their communities. Applications will be accepted from August 15, 2013 to **January 15, 2014** for funding in fall 2014.

This is a "Last Dollar Scholarship" providing up to \$15,000 per year, renewable for four years to a qualified Alabama institution of higher learning, after all other financial aid is applied. The Smith Scholarship provides funding for tuition, room/board, books, study abroad opportunities, dorm pack, business attire, mentors available 24/7, emergency assistance and professional advancement seminars while requiring a high degree of accountability and continued self-assessment from its recipients.

The qualifications are simple: 1) must be a graduating Alabama high school senior; 2) must have a minimum of a C+ grade point average; 3) planning to attend an approved 4-year public college in the State of Alabama – Nursing majors may attend an accredited two year institution; and 4) significant contribution to family or community. There is no ACT minimum, however, the applicant must have taken the ACT or do so before an award can be made.

I encourage you to help us find deserving students who have exhibited a dedication and sense of integrity through their volunteer, community service work or assistance to their family. We are seeking those students who have struggled against the odds whether it is financial, home life or disabilities and proven they are willing to help those around them.

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All of your qualified seniors are invited to apply. We have had many students and parents tell us that our information has not been provided to them because they were not in the top ten percent of their class. This is the scholarship for those students who have potential, but may not qualify for traditional test and grade based scholarships. We want to reach those students who would not otherwise be able to attend college.

Approximately 15 new scholarships will be awarded in April. The deadline for Applications is January 15, 2014.

We want to encourage your students to complete the online application now available on our website at www.smithscholarships.com.

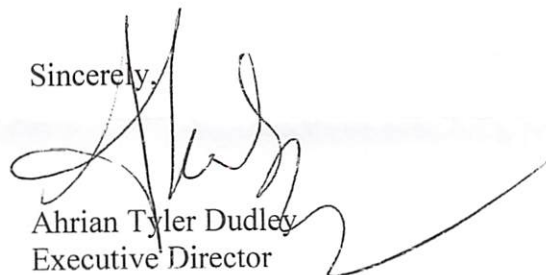
Our website addresses and contact information:

The Smith Scholarship Foundation
400 Caldwell Trace
Indian Springs Village, Alabama 35242

Website: www.smithscholarships.com
Email: apps@smithscholarships.com
Phone: 205-202-4076
Fax: 205-202-4171

Please contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Ahrian Tyler Dudley
Executive Director

Mission Statement: To provide a legacy of learning to those students who have given back to their community through volunteer work and assistance to family. To assist those students in becoming productive members of society who possess independence, morality and outstanding accountability. To encourage these leaders of the future to devote their talents and education for their community, state and nation by providing their fellow man with an example of compassionate citizenship.

The Smith Scholarship Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) private operating foundation, exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Most Common Questions on Application

Where do I go on the Website to apply? Go to the Smith Scholarship Foundation Website: (www.smithscholarships.com). On the Home Page click on "[Apply for the Smith Scholarship Here!](#)" located in the center of the page.

How do I logon? After clicking the "[Apply for the Smith Scholarship Here!](#)" the application will appear on the following page.



[Home](#) [Preview Application](#) [Apply](#) [Returning Applicant](#)

Then you create an account so that the applicant can submit an



[Home](#) [Preview Application](#) [Apply](#) [Returning Applicant](#) [Evaluators/Admin Only](#) [Help](#)

Apply for 2014 Smith Scholarship Program

To apply for this program, please create an account

If you already have an account, please login below

Create an Account

Login

Email *

E-Mail

Confirm Email *

Password

[Forgot Password?](#)

First Name *

Remember me:

Last Name *

Log in

Phone (xxx-xxx-xxxx)

Password *

Confirm Password *

[Create Account](#)

application.

How do I get back on the application? Once you have created an "Account", remember that your "required" email address and password will be your "Keys" to return to the application. You can return to your application as many times as you desire. However, once you click on "Submit", you cannot return to your application. Note: DO NOT click on "Submit" until you are completely finished with your application.

Do I have to finish the entire application at one time? No... You do not have to complete it all at once, however make sure it is completed before the deadline of January 15th 2014

What if I do not know the answers to some of the questions? If you are unsure of any of the questions, please contact the Smith Scholarship Office for further assistance. Be sure to remember your username and password to return to your application for completion.

What if I do not have the Income Tax information filled out for this year yet? Although the FAFSA information will be most accurate if you complete your tax return prior to filling out your FAFSA, it is not essential. Meeting priority deadlines is more important than waiting until your (and, if necessary, your parents') tax return is completed. If you fill out the FAFSA using estimated information from your W-2, take care in estimating your figures. Any large discrepancies between your FAFSA and actual income included in your tax return may have an impact on any preliminary financial aid award you receive.

In most cases, the Smith Scholarship applicants complete their application by using last year's Tax Information. Call the IRS or log on to www.irs.com to obtain your tax information.

Can I mail the application in? Yes, however once you print the application, the applicant will then have to complete it legibly with a Black Ink Pen. We've had issues where printing the application after online completion changes the application's formatting.

What if I do not have information for Mother or Father? Enter "N/A" and make note on your application, explaining your circumstances as directed on the instructions.

On your FAFSA Application, if you have extremely adverse circumstances that prevent you from receiving assistance from your parents, enter "N/A" and contact your campus financial aid office. However, you should note that your

parents' unwillingness to provide their financial information or to pay their expected contribution is usually not accepted as a reasonable circumstance.

What if I have not taken the ACT? List the date you are scheduled to take the ACT and follow up by providing your scores. You must take the ACT to be eligible for this scholarship.

Who should apply for financial aid? All students and potential students who need financial assistance to attend college should apply for financial aid. All Smith Scholars are required to apply for Financial Aid and provide proof of filling out the FAFSA Form.

Why should I apply for financial aid? Financial aid is available to assist students and families in meeting the costs of a college education. If you need help paying for fees, books, and other expenses, you should apply for financial aid.

What if I have not applied for college admission? Contact one of the Smith Scholarship Accepted Universities and ask for an application for admittance, and request a waiver to avoid application fees. Also, update your FAFSA application to have your Pell Grant Funding forwarded to that University.