



2011 Scholarship Application Instructions

DUE DATE: Wed., March 30, 2011 by 2:30 pm to your Career or Counseling Center.

OVERVIEW:

The purpose of Bellingham Chapter of Dollars for Scholars is to distribute awards equitably amongst the four public high schools in Bellingham in amounts of \$500 or more. **Scholarships are distributed to students planning to attend either a technical, community or 4-yr college/university in Fall 2011.**

Students will be considered for a variety of scholarships with this single application. Some scholarships have specific requirements (i.e., post-high school goals, financial need, and/or high school achievements).

NOTE that several scholarships are not looking at GPA/test scores, but are targeted towards students with a particular interest/passion.

QUALIFICATIONS:

 Applicants must be:

- ◆ a currently enrolled high school senior, graduating with the Class of 2011 from Bellingham, Sehome, Squalicum, or Options High School.
- ◆ planning to attend either a technical, community or 4-yr college/university **Fall of 2011.**

If you are unable to attend college in the Fall of 2011 your scholarship funds will be returned to Bellingham Dollars for Scholars. However, in the case of significant hardship, a recipient may appeal in writing to the awards committee, who may agree to a deferment. Please do not apply unless you are serious about attending college in Fall 2011.

INSTRUCTIONS:

 Review ALL of the instructions before starting.

1. **WHERE to find the application:** Application and Instructions are available at:
www.bellinghamdollarsforscholars.com > For Students & Families > Application Materials
2. **WHAT Scholarships are available for 2011 graduates:**
 - All applicants who submit the application will be automatically considered for general fund scholarships. Applicants may ALSO apply for any number of scholarships that have specific eligibility criteria. **Specific scholarships may require that additional pieces be submitted with the application.**
 - At the website, download the packet called **Available Scholarships 2011**. Study this information and determine if any of the specific scholarships fit you. If so, see #5 of Instructions listed below.
3. **HOW to complete the application - computer procedures:**
 - **Applications must be computer-generated using the ‘PDF writable’ format. Handwritten applications will NOT be accepted.** This PDF format allows you to type your answers right into each section of the application. Use the “Tab” key to move from section to section.
 - Once your application is complete, please print the application to secure all the necessary signatures.
 - Do not write anything in the **ID BOX anywhere on the application.**

4. Information on Specific Sections - Applications will be reviewed on the basis of:

- ◆ School activities
- ◆ Community service
- ◆ Recommendation
- ◆ GPA/Test Scores (note that NOT all scholarships are based on GPA & test scores)
- ◆ Unique circumstances are taken into consideration. This section is optional.
- ◆ Involvement in community organizations
- ◆ Work experience
- ◆ Personal Statement – see p. 3

Financial Information on p. 1:

- ◆ Complete this portion ONLY if you feel you might qualify for the scholarships that specify financial need as a criteria.

Essay Questions on p. 3:

- ◆ You MUST complete the required question on page 3. Complete the optional questions ONLY if you feel the questions apply to you. This section will not be given any points, however your responses may be used to determine final award decision.

◆ **Recommendation – p. 4:**

- ◆ Ask a high school counselor, teacher or administrator to complete the recommendation form
- ◆ They have two options for completing the recommendation:
 - a. Print the page and handwrite or type the information on the form.
 - b. Or this page is also PDF WRITABLE – they can download, complete, and print the form from the website: www.bellinghamdollarsforscholars.com > students/families > application materials > Scholarship Application Form 2011.pdf (page 4 only)
- ◆ Once the Recommendation Form is completed, place it in a sealed envelope with YOUR name on the OUTSIDE of the envelope and return the envelope to you or to the Career Center.
- ◆ Ask them to **NOT** put your name anywhere on the actual recommendation page.

◆ **GPA/Test Scores – p. 5:** Print this page so you can obtain the required signatures

◆ **Transcript & Test Score Information:**

- ◆ Follow the procedures at your high school to secure a copy of your transcript and your test scores.
- ◆ Ask the appropriate school representative to sign verifying the accuracy.
- ◆ **Certification Section** – Your signature **and your parent/guardian signatures** are required verifying that all the information (including family income if you're applying for scholarships with financial need as a criteria) in your application is accurate.

5. Specific Scholarships:

- At the website www.bellinghamdollarsforscholars.com - download and read the document **Available Scholarships 2011**. If you feel you qualify for any of these scholarships that require specific eligibility criteria & extra pieces, then:
 - i. Complete the COVER SHEET (located at www.bellinghamdollarsforscholars.com > students/families > application materials > Scholarship Application Cover Sheet.pdf) to indicate those scholarships for which you meet the specific criteria.
 - ii. Submit any extra pieces (addenda) required for those scholarships with your application

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