

What is Support for Talented Students, Inc (STS)?

Support for Talented Students (STS) is a tax-exempt, tax-deductible organization whose sole purpose is to provide scholarships for summer enrichment programs for gifted and talented Central Ohio students currently in grades 3-11 from families who cannot otherwise afford the costs. Scholarships are available for all qualified students regardless of gender, religion, race, sexual orientation, or country of national origin. STS has awarded scholarships for summer enrichment programs to hundreds of gifted and talented students in Central Ohio since 1983.

What is “the Required Student Sponsor?”

Each applicant must be sponsored and referred to STS by a public or private school gifted coordinator, classroom teacher, school psychologist, guidance counselor, or other qualified educator for the child’s **current** school who can certify that the child has been identified as gifted or talented according to the Rule of the State of Ohio. See

<http://education.ohio.gov/getattachment/Topics/Other-Resources/Gifted-Education/Rules-Regulations-and-Policies-for-Gifted-Educatio/Ohio-Revised-Code-3324.pdf.aspx>

- In the Columbus City Schools district, students do not need to submit the sponsor’s form. STS will obtain the sponsor’s recommendation through the Columbus Gifted Program.
- In districts outside the Columbus City Schools, students must have the sponsor complete a recommendation from and verify the student’s gifted identification. Sponsors may complete that form from the STS website.

Does the STS Application also Enroll the Student for the Program?

No, the student must register separately for the desired Program. The student must be accepted to the Program and Session for the specified start and end dates before the STS Scholarship award can be finalized.

TIP: If the program’s application process is available only on-line and it requires a pre-payment (often by credit card) to complete its registration process, do not make the payment. You must contact the program’s director or main office to request advice on how to complete the application

process where an STS scholarship is pending. STS works with many Program Coordinators to help facilitate registration without parent's full, direct payment.

Which Programs are Eligible?

It is recommended, but not required, that the student attend one of the programs to which scholarships have previously been awarded (see the "Summer Programs" option on the left side of the STS webpage. Their directors have worked with STS to register scholarship award winners into their programs.

You may, of course, apply for a scholarship to a program not on this list. Be aware, however, that STS will have to investigate the program to determine if the program meets STS' criteria as an academically-, artistically-, or career tech-focused activity. If it fails to do so, the scholarship application will not be considered.

If the Program is not on the STS "Summer Programs" list, the application must also include a statement describing the program's main goals and activities. Almost every program makes this information available online.

Choosing a program for your child:

Acceptable programs are focused on ACADEMICS, THE ARTS, OR CAREER TECH, such as:

- Math/computer courses; science and engineering camps
- Art, theater, music, and dance instructional programs
- Writing and language workshops; entrepreneurship studies
- Chess programs

UNAcceptable Programs:

- General-activities camps centered on recreation
- Sports camps
- Private military school programs
- Any program outside the continental United States

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Frequently Asked Questions

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When will the Family be notified of a scholarship award?

Children's parents/guardians will be notified around mid-May of the application status. The Enrichment Programs will be notified of the student scholarships as well.

What if I have Questions about the STS Application: If you have any questions about the application process OR if you need assistance, you may contact STS by email at: STSinfo@supportfortalentedstudents.org

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How can I support the goals of Support for Talented Students?

Pay It Forward – Scholarship Financial Support Welcomed: It is through the generosity of our contributors and partners that STS is able to provide enrichment program opportunities for Central Ohio students.

If you are a parent/guardian, a payment of any portion of the enrichment program cost reduces the funds required from STS and allows more funds to be used for other students. Thank you!

If you are a non-parent/guardian interested in making a tax-deductible contribution, please send a check to the address below. A tax deduction form in the STS brochure may be downloaded from the STS Welcome homepage.

Support for Talented Students, Inc.
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