

Scholarship Application Instructions

PRINT THIS PAGE AS A REFERENCE

Student Eligibility: Support for Talented Students (STS) scholarships are awarded only to children who meet the following criteria:

- Parents or guardians demonstrate financial need.
- Applicants must be currently in grades 3 through 11.
- Applicants must be identified as gifted or talented according to the Rule of the State of Ohio.
- Preference will be given to students who have not previously received an STS scholarship.

Eligible Enrichment Programs: 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 web pages) and 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- or artistically- focused activity. If it fails to do so, the scholarship application will be rejected.

Choosing a program for your child:

Acceptable Programs are programs focused on ACADEMICS or THE ARTS, 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 programs outside the continental United States

In the application, you will be asked to provide information for the program you would like your child to attend.

1. Every application must include the name of the Program, Session name, the Start and End dates, Program Cost and Requested amount.

2. 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.

Remember, the registration to the desired program is a separate process; you must apply to and be accepted by the Program as well as apply for the STS Scholarship. Go to the Program's website and follow its instructions. The student must be accepted to the Program and Session for the specified start and end dates before the STS scholarship money will be sent to the program.

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. Contact the program's director or main office to request advise on how to complete the application process where a scholarship is pending approval. STS works with many Program Coordinators to help facilitate Program registration without parent's full, direct payment.

Questions about the STS Application: If you have any questions about the application process OR if you need assistance, you may

1) Contact STS by email at STSinfo@supportfortalentedstudents.org

2) Call an STS member at 614-370-1912

3) Write to:

Support for Talented Students, Inc.
Scholarship Committee
2200 Lane Woods Drive
Columbus, OH 43221

Sponsor Recommendation for Student Applicant

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 from 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/TheLawORC3324-01-07.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 form and verify the student's gifted identification. Sponsors may complete that form from the website.

STS Scholarship Terms and Conditions

1. If the child is awarded a scholarship, the scholarship money will be held by STS until the Program informs STS that it has received that child's completed activity application and has enrolled the child in a session; STS will then send the program the amount of the award for the child.
2. If the Program's application process is only available on-line and it requires payment to complete its application process, the Parent or Guardian should contact STS by mail, by email or by phone to obtain assistance in completing the Program application process. STS works with many Program coordinators to facilitate acceptance where payment may be made by STS on behalf of the parent/guardian.
3. If the child is awarded a scholarship but decides not to attend the program, STS will retain the scholarship.
4. A child who is accepted into a program and for whom tuition has been sent by STS is EXPECTED TO ATTEND that program. IF THE CHILD DOES NOT ATTEND THE SCHEDULED PROGRAM, STS will receive the refund and return it into the STS general scholarship fund.
5. Occasionally, for reasons over which STS has no control, some popular programs close their enrollments before STS scholarship candidates get the chance to apply for them. If your child should be closed out of a program, and if you have properly submitted your application to the program according to our instructions, STS will work with you and the program administrators to try to place your child in another program or session of similar interest and approximately equal cost.

Instructions for the STS Scholarship Application

IMPORTANT: READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU BEGIN WORK ON THE APPLICATION. FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS:

· ON-LINE APPLICATIONS ARE PREFERRED. IF YOU APPLY ON-LINE, YOU MUST COMPLETE IT IN FULL ONCE YOU START IT. Be Prepared to Complete the Application: An on-line application is preferred. Before beginning the application process, be sure to have the following information on hand:

1. Summer Program Details (Program and Session name, Start and End Dates, Cost and Requested Amount which may be less than the Program's Cost.
2. School's Gifted or Talented Sponsor Contact Information.
3. Student Statement using the topic guideline listed below. We recommend having your child type the essay in a word processing program and then copy and paste the essay into the space on the application or include the printed essay with the application form.

Student Statement (to be written by the student): In a short paragraph, what do you hope to learn in this program that is new and different for you? (We already know you will do fun things and make new friends, so please share the other things you hope to gain from the program.)

· IF YOU USE THE PAPER VERSION, YOU CAN STOP AS NEEDED.

The STS application must be submitted online using the Blue Underlined Link below or the application must be mailed via postal service to the address below postmarked by the application end date. The application may be downloaded, completed and emailed to STSinfo@supportfortalentedstudents.org or mailed to the address noted.

Support for Talented Students Summer Scholars Online Application

E-Mail scanned application and income verification forms to STSinfo@supportfortalentedstudents.org
OR

Mail application and income verification forms to:

Support for Talented Students, Inc.
Scholarship Committee
2200 Lane Woods Drive
Columbus, OH 43221

Notifications: Children's parents/guardians will be notified in April of the application status. The Programs will be notified in April as well.

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

If you are a parent/guardian, a payment of any portion of the program cost, reduces the funds required from STS and allows some 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 Home Page.