



iScholar Program 2021 - 2022

Application Checklist and Guidelines

A complete application submitted before the deadline (January 31, 2022) consists of the scholarship application form, the required documents listed below, and one interview (for the finalists only). See the frequently asked questions (FAQs) below for more information.

Deadline

January 31, 2022, 11:59 PM

Required Documents / Submission

- One completed 2021 scholarship **application online form**. Remember, you **MUST** hit the submit button by 11:59 PM of January 31, 2022.
- Report card/transcript which **shows cumulative GPA**
- SAT Score** (report summary)
- Scanned or digital copy of **honors, awards, certificates, etc.**
- Supporting documents of **community and school involvement**
- Filled out Recommendation** from a teacher and an adult who is not related to the student
- Video or Written Essay**

The essay should be a personal reflection pertaining to **any** of the following topics:

- *Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.*
- *Why do you want to go to college/university? Why is it important to you?*
- *What are your hopes for the future in regard to children worldwide?*
- *How do you want to make a difference in your community or in the world?*

Format:

- Written
- **OR**
- Video (Video can be in the form of a documentary, short story, music video, animation, interview, etc).

Length:

- Written Essay should not exceed 500 words
- Video must not exceed three (3) minutes



File Formats

Documents submitted via uploading to your online application form must be in DOC, DOCX, or PDF file format.

If you are submitting a video essay, we require an .mp4 format

How to Apply

Apply online using our online application. The online application will close at 11:59 PM on January 31, 2022.

Email

ischolar@ilearnschools.org

Selection Process / Timeline



Process:

I – Eligibility Assessment

- Guidance counselors will ensure that students meet the criteria before a prospective scholar applies. Once determined, student can apply via the link that will be shared.

II – Evaluation



- Each school selection committee members will independently review and score each application using the scoring rubric. Finalists will then be recommended for the interview.

III – Interview

- Successful finalists will be called for the interview by the community panel. Deliberation will take place at the end of all the interviews.

IV – Final Decision

- Five successful candidates will be selected by the school committee members and community panel.

Panel Interview

Introduction: The Community Panel Interview is a decision support aid designed to assist iLearn Schools Scholarship Committee in selecting the awardees of our first ever scholarship grant via a face – to - face interview. The intent is get to know the applicant on a more personal level as well as to get more information from them that are not visible in the application.

Process:

- Interviews will be held in April 2022
- They will be held in a semi-casual environment with three community members outside of iLearn Schools.
- Interviews will last for 15 minutes
- Interviewer will ask guided questions but should also feel free to vary the questions to fit personal communication style and/or background of the applicant.
- After each interview, panel will score the applicant.
- When all the applicants have completed the interview process, the community panel will convene with the school’s committee to do the final deliberations.

FAQs

1. Who is eligible to apply?

You are eligible to apply if you meet all of the following general requirements:

1. You are a graduating senior high school at Bergen ASCS, Passaic ASCS or Paterson ASCS
2. You have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0



3. You intend to enroll in a 4-year college / university

2. How are scholars selected?

Applications are reviewed by scholarship selection committee composed of the high school director, two guidance counselors and community members outside of iLearn Schools. Scholarships will be awarded primarily based on the following:

- GPA
- SAT
- Honors and awards
- Community and school involvement
- Recommendation forms
- Essay

3. How much is the scholarship?

\$2,000 for five (5) successful students from each district (Bergen, Passaic, Paterson ASCS)

4. Is this a one-time scholarship?

Yes. We will award successful candidates only a one-time scholarship grant

5. How many applications should I submit?

Only one, please. One correctly completed application is sufficient.

6. When is the application due?

The scholarship application form and all other required documentation must be submitted by 11:59 PM on January 31, 2022. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed and will automatically be removed from the system.

7. What constitutes a complete application?

- One completed 2021 scholarship **application online form**. Remember, you **MUST** hit the submit button by 11:59 PM of January 31, 2022.
- Copy of report card/transcript which **shows cumulative GPA**
- Copy of **SAT Score** (report summary)
- Scanned or digital copy of **honors, awards, certificates, etc.**
- Supporting documents of **community and school involvement**
- **Filled out Recommendation** from a teacher and an adult who is not related to the student
- **Video or Written Essay**



8. How do I navigate the online application?

The application link will be provided by the high school guidance counselors. You may change, delete, or replace the answers in the application and delete or replace the uploaded documents by logging back again in to the form.

Once you hit the submit button, you will not be able to change anything with your application. It will be considered final.

9. How do I know my application has been received?

After you submit your application, a confirmation email is automatically sent to your inbox. It will contain a copy of your completed application *with attached copies of any documents that you've uploaded*. If you do not receive this confirmation email, your application has not been received. You should go back and make absolutely sure you have hit the "Submit" button or contact ischolar@ilearnschools.org

We strongly suggest that you verify that all of your uploaded files are intact. Some large files in the past have had the name without the contents. Documents that are very large may have problems and then must be resent via attachment to an email or sent in print. Remember, until the deadline of January 31, 2022, you may return to your online form to make additions and/or changes or to check that all of your documents are in order in our database.

10. When will I know if I am a finalist?

All successful finalist will be informed in March 2022. The finalists will proceed to the next round which is the interview process.

11. What happens once I am called in as a finalist?

All finalists who want to be considered for the scholarship must be interviewed by a set of community panel. The interview is a mandatory process if you want to be considered for the scholarship grant.

12. What file formats will you accept for the supporting documents?

We can accept DOC, DOCX, RTF, and PDF files. For the video, we will accept .mp4 file.

13. Essay Requirements

Write 500 words or less. Upload this document as a doc or pdf file. Make sure to put your name on the document. The essay should be a personal reflection pertaining to **any** of the following topics:

- *Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.*
- *Why do you want to go to college/university? Why is it important to you?*
- *What are your hopes for the future in regard to children worldwide?*
- *How do you want to make a difference in your community or in the world?*



14. Transcript Requirements GPA / SAT

We will accept a digital copy of your transcript and SAT score. You may ask your college guidance for assistance on this.

15. Letters of Recommendation

In the application form, you will provide the names and contact information of your two reference. We will send them a form that they will fill out and submit directly to us. The filled out recommendation form will not be sent to you. However, you should inform them about the scholarship program you are applying and that they should expect an email from us. The two reference should be a teacher and another adult not related to you. The recommendation form should be completed and submitted to us by January 31, 2022.

16. Interview with the Community Panel

Only successful finalist will proceed to do the interview. There will be three community members who will interview you in April 2022.

- The interview will be held in your respective campus with three community members outside of iLearn Schools.
- Interviews will last for 15 minutes
- Interviewer will ask guided questions but should also feel free to vary the questions to fit personal communication style and/or background of the applicant.
- After each interview, panel will score the applicant.
- When all the applicants have completed the interview process, the community panel will convene with the school's committee to do the final deliberations.

17. How is my scholarship paid?

You will receive a check of \$2,000 from iLearn Schools before your graduation.

18. Will there be a celebration?

There will be an award ceremony to announce the winners of the scholarship grant. Families of the scholarship recipients will be invited as well.

19. Will this be publicized?



iScholar program will be highly promoted in our social media platforms. All finalists and winners will be featured on our website, newsletter and other platforms.