



American Nystagmus Network

Scholarship Program

THE PROGRAM

The American Nystagmus Network, Inc. (ANN), a non-profit organization serving the needs and interests of those affected by Nystagmus, has established a scholarship program to assist students diagnosed with Nystagmus and those affiliated with the American Nystagmus Network (ANN) who plan to continue their education in college or vocational school programs. Scholarships are offered for full-time study at an accredited institution of the student's choice.

This scholarship program is administered by Scholarship Management Services[®], a division of Scholarship America[®]. Scholarship Management Services is the nation's largest designer and manager of scholarship and tuition reimbursement programs for corporations, foundations, associations and individuals. Awards are granted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, age, gender, disability or national origin.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be one of the following:
 - A current American Nystagmus Network Student Member diagnosed with Nystagmus.
 - An ANN Regular Member or family member diagnosed with Nystagmus.
 - Any student diagnosed with Nystagmus.
- Be high school seniors or graduates or be current postsecondary undergraduates or graduate level students.
- Plan to enroll in full-time undergraduate study at an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school for the entire upcoming academic year.

Applicants are required to provide medical certification of Nystagmus diagnosis.

Students not affiliated with American Nystagmus Network may apply for the program provided students meet all other conditions for eligibility.

AWARDS

If selected as a recipient, the student will receive a \$1,000 award. Up to five (5) awards will be granted each year. Awards are not renewable, but students may reapply to the program each year they meet eligibility requirements.

Awards are for undergraduate and graduate study.

APPLICATION

Interested students must complete the application and mail it along with a current, complete transcript of grades to Scholarship Management Services postmarked no later than **May 30**. Grade reports are not acceptable. Online transcripts must display student name, school name, grade and credit hours earned for each course, and term in which each course was taken. The application form includes an area to provide a statement about one's experience with Nystagmus and a release to allow ANN to view the application and publish the statement. Applicants must also include medical certification of the Nystagmus diagnosis. ANN will use applicant contact information to help build awareness of, and membership in, ANN.

Applicants will receive acknowledgment of receipt of their application. If an acknowledgment card is not received within three weeks, applicants may call Scholarship Management Services to verify that the application has been received.

Applicants are responsible for gathering and submitting all necessary information. Instructions for completing the Financial Data section of the application are included. Applications are evaluated on the information supplied; therefore, answer all questions as completely as possible. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated. All information received is considered confidential and is reviewed only by ANN and Scholarship Management Services.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of academic performance, demonstrated leadership and participation in school and community activities, work experience, a statement of career and educational goals and objectives, a statement regarding living with Nystagmus and overcoming any obstacles associated with it, and an outside appraisal. Financial need as calculated by Scholarship Management Services must be demonstrated for the student to receive an award.

Selection of recipients is made by Scholarship Management Services. In no instance does any officer or employee of ANN play a part in the selection. All applicants agree to accept the decision as final.

Applicants will be notified in July. Not all applicants to the program will be selected as recipients. Students may reapply to the program each year they meet eligibility requirements.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship Management Services processes scholarship payments on behalf of the American Nystagmus Network. Payments are made on August 15. Checks are mailed to each recipient's home address and are made payable to the school for the student.

OBLIGATIONS

Recipients have no other obligation to ANN; however, by applying for the scholarship, applicants agree to be contacted by ANN and agree to allow ANN to publish, print and use their Nystagmus experience statement without charge. Recipients are required to notify Scholarship Management Services of any changes in address, school enrollment, or other relevant information and to send a complete transcript when requested.

REVISIONS

The American Nystagmus Network, Inc. reserves the right to review the conditions and procedures of this scholarship program and to make changes at any time, including termination of the program.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions regarding the scholarship program should be addressed to:

American Nystagmus Network, Inc. Scholarship Program
Scholarship Management Services
One Scholarship Way
Saint Peter, MN 56082

Telephone: (507) 931-1682

Administered by
**Scholarship
Management
Services®**
A Division of Scholarship America®

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE FINANCIAL DATA SECTION OF THE APPLICATION

The Financial Data section of the application should be completed by parents, guardians, **or** by the applicant if independent. Independent is defined as one who is **not** claimed as a dependent by the parent/guardian for tax purposes. Information should be from a completed tax return filed with the IRS.

1. **State of residence** is the state where the parents and/or independent applicant reside and pay state income tax.
2. **Adjusted gross income** can be found on IRS FORM 1040 and is gross income reduced by specific adjustments allowed by law.
3. **Total federal tax paid** includes the total amount of **federal** income tax to be paid as reported on IRS FORM 1040. This is **not** the amount withheld from employee's paychecks. (The amount withheld should be adjusted by any refund or additional taxes due.) Do **not** report state income tax.
4. **Total income** of parent(s) should be reported individually for both parents if applicant is a dependent student, or by the applicant if independent. If applying as a dependent student, provide information for both natural parents, when possible. **If the student resides with only one parent**, financial information **must** be received from the parent who claims the child as a dependent for tax purposes. If a parent has remarried, the spouse's information is required if the spouse is a legal guardian of the student, or claims the student as a dependent, or the student is included in the spouse's benefit plan. **If necessary, two Financial Data sections may be submitted by the student.** A copy of the Financial Data section may be made in order for one to be completed by each parent.
5. **Untaxed income and benefits** include any other income or benefits not included in the adjusted gross income figure. Do not include untaxed contributions to retirement plans.
6. **Medical and dental expenses** include only those expenses not paid by insurance. Do not include premium payments.
7. **Total cash, checking, savings, cash value of stocks, etc.**, include liquid assets that can be used for educational expenses. **Do not include** IRA, 401k, or other retirement plan funds.
8. **Total number of family members living in the household** and primarily supported by the reported income may include:
 - the applicant
 - the applicant's parents (or spouse if student is independent)
 - other children living in the household
 - dependent college students living away from home
 - other people who live in the household and receive more than half of their support from the reported incomeIndependent students should only report those individuals who are supported by the reported income.
9. **Marital status** is the current status of the person from whom the financial information is submitted.
10. **Of the total number of family members on line 8, number of students attending college** includes family members attending a two- or four-year college, university, or vocational-technical school at least half-time. Include the applicant in this number. Do not include parents.

NOTE: Any exceptions to providing financial information as instructed above must be submitted to Scholarship Management Services in writing.