



2020-2021 Step Ahead Scholarship Instructions

The Step Ahead Scholarship program is a collaborative effort of A Step Ahead Foundation and Girls Inc. of Memphis to support their commitment to encouraging the educational advancement and leadership development of young women in the greater Memphis community. The ultimate goal of the program is to increase education and career opportunities, and to foster leadership and dedication to the greater Memphis community. The program is managed by Bank Tennessee.

Multiple scholarships of at least \$2,000 will be awarded from a \$100,000 fund. Awards will be based on strength of application and estimated financial need. Each award is a one-time scholarship; however, recipients are encouraged to maintain good academic status, volunteer with A Step Ahead and/or Girls Inc. of Memphis, and reapply each year as needed. Recipients may receive a scholarship for up to four years. For each additional year after the first award, the amount of the award will likely be decreased.

Eligibility

- Candidates must be female and between the ages of 17 and 35.
- Candidates must have been a resident of Shelby County for a period of at least 2 years.
- Candidates must have applied to an accredited institution of secondary education at the time of application. This includes colleges and universities, as well as technical and vocational schools.

Application Requirements and Deadline

- Fully complete the attached application form; all questions must be answered.
- Attach applicant's most recent transcript.
- Attach applicant's 200-300 word essay or a link to applicant's YouTube video.
- Applicant is highly encouraged to also include a current resume.
- **Completed Application packets must be received by The Step Ahead Scholarship Committee by April 3rd.**

Application Evaluation and Notification

- The evaluation rubric is attached. It lists the topics that will be used by the scholarship committee to evaluate the applications.
- **Award notifications will be sent by May 15th.**
- Scholarship funds will be distributed at a reception this summer. Checks will be made payable to the academic institutions. It will be the responsibility of the recipient to forward the check to her school.

Questions or for technical assistance concerning The Step Ahead Scholarship should be directed to scholarship@astepaheadfoundation.org.

Completed Application packet may be emailed to scholarship@astepaheadfoundation.org; or hard copies may be mailed to:

A Step Ahead Foundation, P.O. Box 41601, Memphis, TN 38174



**2020-2021 Step Ahead Scholarship
Scoring Rubric**

This rubric is for informational purposes only. It lists the topics that will be used by the scholarship committee to evaluate the applications. **It is not to be filled out by the applicant.** Rather, the applicant should keep these topics in mind as she fills out the application and answers the prompt.

| | 1-10 points | Comments |
|--|-------------|----------|
| Participated in or volunteered with Girls Inc. of Memphis or volunteered with A Step Ahead Foundation | | |
| Potential for <i>or</i> expresses interest in public service promoting values of Girls Inc. of Memphis or A Step Ahead Foundation through chosen course of study | | |
| Demonstrates understanding of the importance for a woman to be strong, smart, and bold. | | |
| Demonstrates understanding and importance of life planning through long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) | | |
| Expresses interest in returning to Memphis | | |
| Prior community service involvement | | |
| Potential for academic success | | |
| Total | | |



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1. Name of Applicant _____ DOB _____

Address _____ City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ Email Address _____

City/State of Birth _____ Years lived in Memphis/Shelby County _____

Parent/Guardian Current City of Residence _____

Current Status (circle one)

High School Senior Undergraduate Student Graduate Student

Student at technical, vocational, beauty school, etc. Not in school

Current (or most recent) school and years attended _____

Current (or most recent) GPA _____

Intended 2020-2021 school _____

Intended 2020-2021 program of study _____

Intended year of graduation _____

2. Anticipated tuition, room, board and fees, for 2020-2021 _____

Total amount awarded from other scholarships (Hope, etc.), financial aid, work study assistance, etc. that you will be receiving for the 2020-2021 year \$ _____ Please list awards and amounts. (Attach additional page if needed.)

Amount requested from The Step Ahead Scholarship for 2020-2021 \$ _____

If you have been the recipient of The Step Ahead Scholarship in the past, please list the year(s) in which you received the scholarship _____

3. If applicable, please list and describe involvement and/or affiliation you have had with A Step Ahead Foundation and/or Girls Inc. of Memphis, including volunteer activities. Please include months/years you were involved. Note that lack of involvement with these groups will not exclude your application from consideration. (Attach additional page if needed.)



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- 4. Please list any community service/volunteering, internship or employment) related to public health, public service, education, etc., including organization names and months/years you were involved. (Attach additional page if needed.)
5. Please attach a copy of your current MOST RECENT TRANSCRIPT. This is an important part of the application and MUST be included in order for your application to be complete and eligible for consideration. Attaching a current RESUME is highly encouraged.
6. Please answer BOTH parts of the PROMPT below with either a 200-300 word essay OR a 30 second to 2 minute YouTube video. Please see examples of past videos on the ASAF and Girls Inc. of Memphis websites.
If submitting an essay, please attach it to this application.
If submitting a video, please print the YouTube video link-

PROMPT:
After examining the websites of A Step Ahead Foundation and Girls Inc. of Memphis (www.astepaheadfoundation.org and www.girlsincmemphis.org), discuss how you would use your chosen degree 1) to encourage and enable young women to be strong, smart, and bold, AND 2) how long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) can help women reach their goals.

I, _____ (print name), confirm that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge, that my submission to the scholarship committee, whether an essay or video, is my own work; and that discovery of dishonesty or plagiarism on the application form will result in my disqualification from consideration.

I agree to inform the scholarship committee of any changes to the above information including updated information on outside funding, scholarships, and financial awards for the 2020-2021 school year.

I understand that my work, whether an essay or video, and any photographs or video images of me at the award reception, become the property of A Step Ahead Foundation and Girls Inc. of Memphis, and may be used by them for marketing, development, or other purposes.

I acknowledge that if awarded a scholarship, I will attend and remain in good standing with an accredited educational institution.

Signed _____ Date _____