

D.R.E.A.M.S for Youth Scholarship Program 2016

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
LIVE UNITED 
United Way of Long Island

Determination. Realization. Enrichment. Academics. Mission. Service

United Way of Long Island's DREAMS for Youth Scholarship Program provides financial support so **Long Island Youth** can pursue their dreams and aspirations.

Based on the belief that financial need should not be a barrier to achieving one's potential, the mission of DREAMS is to provide financial assistance in two distinct areas: academic and enrichment. The scholarship program is open to seventh to twelfth grade **Long Island Youth** who demonstrate financial need and a commitment to community service.

DREAMS is an integral part of United Way's focus on what matters most in our community. In order to achieve positive change in the lives of Long Islanders, United Way of Long Island, together with our community partners, advances the common good by investing in and developing programs that address Long Islanders' critical needs in education, income/financial stability and health. United Way proudly supports over 100 health and human service agencies across Long Island.

With the generous support of the late Ben Pace, founder of the Dreams R Us Foundation, the Dreams for Youth Scholarship Program was developed in 2001.

Enclosed is information on how to apply for a grant, eligibility details, deadlines and an application form.

Academic Scholarship: \$1000 - \$5,000

Aimed at youth who have the desire to learn, the academic scholarship award assists 12th grade students who need financial assistance in order to advance their education. Academic awards are designed to assist with the cost of tuition to vocational schools, colleges and universities as well as to assist with the cost of books and supplies.

Enrichment Scholarship: \$100 - \$2,500

Intended for youth who participate in activities that enrich the soul, the body, the heart or inspire creativity, the enrichment scholarship award helps 7th to 12th grade students who demonstrate financial need to achieve their dreams.

Scholarships can be used for music, singing, dance, art lessons, computer graphics training, specialized summer camps, sports training, acting, photography, fashion design and more. Awards may be used for enrollment fees, instruments and/or supplies.



"The dreams of our youth are the building blocks for our future. As students realize their dreams, they bring to light a path for the next generation of dreamers to follow. It is my hope that the DREAMS for Youth Scholarship recipients dream big and inspire others to do the same."

*Meghan Pace,
Executive Director of the Dreams R Us Foundation*

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Scholarship Criteria

It is the policy of United Way of Long Island and the DREAMS for Youth Advisory Board to consider all qualified candidates without regard to race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability. Each applicant is notified of the Board's determination. Funds are distributed directly to the vendor for the enrichment scholarship and to the selected college or vocational school for the academic award.

Applicant and parent/guardian signatures indicate that all information contained in the application is complete, factually correct and honestly presented. If any information is found to be false, this may result in the forfeiture of the scholarship award.

Awards are granted at the discretion of the Board and supervised by the United Way of Long Island. It is the responsibility of the scholarship award recipient to submit reports at the end of the activity for which the scholarship was received.

For academic scholarships, reports must be submitted at the end of the semester and continued funding for the one year duration of the scholarship will be contingent upon the applicant receiving a grade of B or better **and** receipt of the report.

United Way of Long Island maintains the anonymity of the applicants and does not share personal information, including names, addresses or social security numbers with any outside parties, including the DREAMS for Youth Advisory Board. United Way of Long Island reserves the right to terminate scholarships at any time.

**All scholarships are for one year only.
Applicants are not eligible for repeat
scholarships.**

Students competing for the DREAMS Scholarship must meet the following criteria:

Applicants must reside in Long Island and attend a Middle or High School in Nassau or Suffolk County.

For Academic Scholarships, applicants must be enrolled in 12th grade.

For Enrichment Scholarships, applicants must be enrolled in 7th to 12th grade.

Applicant must demonstrate financial need for academic and enrichment scholarships.

Academic Scholarships require a copy of your FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR) report

Enrichment Scholarships require a copy of the most recent tax return (first 2 pages only) for parents or guardians. These documents must be submitted along with the application.

**Application Deadline:
Monday, April 25, 2016**

**All materials must be
submitted together by
April 25, 2016
NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Applicants will be notified of their status mid to late June. Checks will be distributed upon receipt of the student's proof of enrollment at their respective institution.

Application Cover Sheet

2016 DREAMS FOR YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Name: _____ Last four of SSN: _____

Application Checklist: (To be completed by all Applicants)

Application is only considered complete and valid when **all** items listed are mailed together:

Have you included:

This checklist _____

Your Official School Transcript _____

Copy of FAFSA Student Aid report (SAR) _____

OR

Copy of your parent/guardian's most recent 1040 (first 2 pages only)

The dollar amount of the scholarship you are requesting _____

Information on other grants/scholarships for which you have applied for/received _____

Copy of SAT (ACT) Scores _____

Your Resume _____

Your Essay/Personal Statement _____

Two Letters of Recommendation _____

Applicant and Parent/Guardian Disclosure

I, _____ attest that all of the information provided in this application is complete, factually correct and honestly presented. I understand that if any of the information is found to be false, this may result in disqualification or forfeiture of the scholarship award. I understand that it is my responsibility to submit appropriate bills to United Way of Long Island for payment that will be made directly to the appropriate academic institution or vendor.

I understand that my signature below attests to the above, and I agree to adhere to these terms. If the applicant is under the age of 18 years old, an additional signature of a parent or guardian is required.

Applicant Signature and date

Parent or Guardian Signature and date

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Scholarship Application: Applicant and Parent Data

Applicant's Name: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Last four of SSN: _____ Gender (circle) Male/Female

Mailing Address: _____

Daytime Telephone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Current School Name and District: _____

Guidance Counselor Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Amount of Scholarship Request: _____ Type of Scholarship (Circle One) Academic Enrichment

College/School or Program Name: _____

College/School Annual Tuition Cost: _____ Room/Board Cost: _____

Parent or Guardian Information:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ M.I. _____

Home: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ M.I. _____

Home: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

Essay/Personal Statement: In an approximately 250 word essay, using any one of the DREAMS acronyms: **Determination, Realization, Enrichment, Academics, Mission or Service**, write a personal statement that describes an event, achievement or experience that has had a strong influence on your life.

Letters of Recommendation: Please provide two letters of recommendation: one from a school or teacher and the other from a church, community leader or other who can attest to your involvement with community service activities at school, church or in the Long Island Community.

SEND APPLICATION VIA MAIL BY FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2016 TO:

Dreams for Youth Scholarship Program
ATTN: S. Mahoney
United Way of Long Island
819 Grand Boulevard, Deer Park, NY 11729