



2014/2015 School Year - National Help America Hear Scholarship



The scholarship is open nationally to high school seniors who have a hearing loss, which requires the use of hearing aid(s) in their daily life.

The purpose of this scholarship is to help students with hearing challenges reach their full potential by giving them the gift of sound. This will further allow the students to build confidence and self-esteem as they prepare to begin their college or vocational school education.

The recipient of this scholarship will be selected by an independent group of judges to be determined by the Foundation For Sight & Sound, a 501c3 Not for Profit Corporation. The scholarship will award one student per school year, currently wearing hearing aid(s).

The scholarship recipient will receive **two** state-of-the-art *ReSound Hearing Aids* which best fit his/her hearing loss, along with a \$500 Scholarship to the student's college or vocational school of choice.

The essay should highlight the student's creativity, research and life experiences. It **MUST** also include, but is not limited to, responses to the following questions that pertain to student's situation:

- What is hearing loss?
- How have your peers and teachers supported your academic achievements?
- Explain how your hearing loss has influenced your productivity in school?
- What challenges do you face as a hearing impaired student? How are you overcoming those challenges?
- Do you perceive hearing aids have or will increase your ability to learn?
- List the ways hearing aids will improve your education, work and social goals. Explain what new activities you will engage in or pursue with new hearing aids.
- Upon receiving new hearing aids, how do you expect your life to change? What changes will you hope to achieve? Do you think your interpersonal relationships will be different?
- What are you looking to accomplish with your college degree in your life and how this award will help you achieve your goals for the future?
- How will you advocate change for self-determination for students and individuals who are hearing impaired?

All essays **MUST** be between 500-1500 words, single-spaced in 12-point Arial font with 1" margins.

Additional documents required with the essay:

1. A completed scholarship application
2. Photo of applicant
3. A copy of student's Hearing Instruments Evaluation, no more than 3 months old
4. Medical clearance signed by an ENT
5. Copy of college or vocational school acceptance letter (if received)
6. A signed photo release (if student is a minor, then form must be signed by a parent or legal guardian). It is requested parents sign one as well.
7. Two (2) letters of reference. One from a teacher, a guidance counselor, coach etc., and one individual outside of school and family (i.e. employer, community leader, college professor, etc.) Depending on the type of reference, each letter should include, but is not limited to:
 - a. Why they recommend student for this scholarship
 - b. A brief description of the student's social involvement in school and in the community
 - c. Details of the student's academic performance
 - d. Extracurricular activities

Judges will base their decisions on 4 overall criteria:

1. The writing quality of the essay, which includes grammar and punctuation.
2. The content – (i.e.) essay discusses ALL questions, as stated above, that pertain to student's situation
3. The student will benefit from the use of hearing aids
4. Student's activities and involvement in school, community and home

Please email your essay, application and all other required documents, in Word and/or PDF format, to: scholarship@foundationforsightandsound.org

Important Information Regarding This Scholarship:

- **DEADLINE to submit essay/scholarship packet: SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2015**
- **Applications received after the deadline will not be considered**
- Winners will be selected and notified approximately by **FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2015**
- No employees or family members of Foundation For Sight & Sound, Resound or any other hearing healthcare industry entity may apply to this scholarship
- All essays and supporting materials submitted become the property of Foundation For Sight & Sound and are considered permissible to use for marketing and fundraising purposes.

For questions or additional information about the Help America Hear Scholarship, please call (631)366-3461.

The Foundation For Sight & Sound does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, or military status in its selection process.

For more information about the **Foundation For Sight & Sound** or **Help America Hear**, please visit our website: www.foundationforsightandsound.org



**2014/2015 School Year – National
Help America Hear Scholarship Application**



Student Information:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ DOB: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone Number: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

Parent Information:

Mother/Legal Guardian:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ DOB: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Ethnicity: _____
Telephone Number: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

Father/Legal Guardian:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ DOB: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Ethnicity: _____
Telephone Number: (____) _____ Email Address: _____

Student's Educational Information:

High School: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Graduation Year: _____ GPA: _____
SAT Score: _____ ACT Score: _____ Other: _____
College or Vocational School you will be attending:

City: _____ State: _____ Hours Completed: _____ GPA: _____
Intended Major: _____ Intended Minor: _____

Parent's Educational Background: (Optional Section)

(This information is for statistical purposes only and will NOT be used in selecting recipients)

Mother/Legal Guardian:

Highest Level Of Education Completed: _____

Employed: yes/no Income: under \$25,000 __; \$25,000-\$50,000 __; Above \$50,000 __

Father/Legal Guardian:

Highest Level Of Education Completed: _____

Employed: yes/no Income: under \$25,000 __; \$25,000-\$50,000 __; Above \$50,000 __

Current Hearing Aid: (If Applicable)

Type: _____ Model: _____ Year: _____

How did you get last pair of hearing aids? Insurance__ Out of Pocket __ Other_____

List And Describe Your Involvement In All Activities And Organizations:

CHECKLIST For The Help America Hear Scholarship:

- ____ 1) This Completed Application Form
- ____ 2) Written Essay
- ____ 3) Copy Of Hearing Instruments Evaluation (no more than 3 months old)
- ____ 4) Medical Clearance Signed By An ENT Or Licensed Physician
- ____ 5) Copy Of College Acceptance Letter (if received)
- ____ 6) Photo Of Applicant
- ____ 7) Signed Photo Release (Signed by parent if applicant is under 18)
- ____ 8) Letters Of Reference (2)

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The Foundation For Sight & Sound does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, or military status in its selection process.

The applicant information collected is used exclusively to select a scholarship recipient. Applicants will be contacted only if there are clarifying questions regarding application information and to inform applicants of their status.

For Questions About **The Help America Hear Scholarship**, Please Call
(631)366-3461 Or Visit Our Website At www.foundationforsightandsound.org