



**SAN FRANCISCO
ACHIEVERS**

COMPLETE APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 1ST, 2016

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in San Francisco Achievers! We look forward to receiving your application. There are a few things you should know as you begin preparing it...

San Francisco Achievers offers a college program and the promise of a college scholarship (up to \$12,000) to African American males attending San Francisco public high schools with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher who demonstrate financial need. **BOTH seniors and juniors may apply, though funding priority is given to juniors who complete the Leadership Academy.** So apply as a junior! Students with a GPA below 2.5 may be accepted if they can provide a compelling narrative explaining how their GPA is not reflective of their ability. If you are unsure if you should apply, please arrange to meet with SF Achievers staff to review your transcript.

We strongly recommend that you consult with your parent/guardian. We also recommend you obtain your proof of financial need (2014 IRS Form 1040 for most applicants) prior to completing the financial need section. At any time during the application process, you are encouraged to contact SF Achievers staff with questions or concerns. We understand that the lives of our scholars do not always fit neatly into the checkboxes on a form. If any section of this application is confusing or you are uncertain how to respond, we are available to work through it with you. We want you to submit the best possible application.

Once the application is submitted, it is reviewed by our staff to ensure it is complete. It is a good idea to include an email address on your application that is frequently checked. A confirmation email will be sent to the applicant's email address when a complete application is received. If your application is incomplete, we will notify you, but it is your responsibility to provide missing documents in a timely fashion. If you do not hear from us, it most likely means we did not receive your application or were unable to read your handwriting. Please contact us immediately if you have not received confirmation of receipt within by February 15th.

Each complete application is then reviewed by two or more community panelists. Based on the panelists' recommendations, applicants are then declined or asked to advance to the interview stage. Interview appointments will be made in early March, with interviews taking place in late March/early April. Applicants invited to interview may be asked to provide additional verification documents depending on their situation (e.g. seniors may be asked to provide a letter of acceptance from a college or university). After interviews, applicants will be notified by USPS and phone if they have been accepted.

Once accepted, junior applicants must complete the Senior Leadership Academy consisting of monthly workshops, mentoring, and field trips and attend an accredited college or university full time in the fall immediately following their high school graduation. Senior applicants must complete a condensed Leadership Workshop in place of the year-long Academy. Students attending a 4-year college receive up to \$3,000 per year (\$12,000 total). Students attending a 2-year college will receive up to \$1,500 per year until they transfer to a 4-year program, at which time they will be eligible for \$3,000 per year (\$9,000 total). Once in college, all scholars must maintain a 2.5 GPA, complete all required program activities, and submit required documentation each term to retain their scholarship eligibility.

If you have questions regarding this college program, scholarship, or application, please contact me by phone at 415-450-1495 or by email at cbradshaw@sfachievers.org.

Don't forget! A complete application has all the following documents:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Application Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Two Recommendations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Essay – Why Attend College? | <input type="checkbox"/> High School Transcript |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Essay – Personal Statement | <input type="checkbox"/> Proof of Financial Need |

And can be submitted via

- Email – cbradshaw@sfachievers.org
- Fax – 415.484.7148
- Mail – 244 Kearny Street, Fl 6, San Francisco, CA 94108

Good luck!

Sincerely,
Catherine Bradshaw, Director of Program Development



2016 Application		
Date Rcvd	GPA	Complete
	Stage 1	Stage 2

Instructions

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED ON FEBRUARY 1ST, 2016

San Francisco Achievers offers a college program to 11th grade African American males attending San Francisco public high schools with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher who demonstrate financial need. Graduating seniors may also apply, but scholarship priority will be given to juniors. Scholars must complete the Senior Leadership Academy and attend an accredited college or university full time in the fall following their high school graduation. Students attending a 4-year college receive up to \$3,000 per year (\$12,000 total). Students attending a 2-year college will receive up to \$1,500 per year until they transfer to a 4-year program, at which time they will be eligible for \$3,000 per year. Once in college, all scholars must maintain a 2.5 GPA, complete all required program activities, and submit required documentation each term to retain their scholarship eligibility. If you have questions regarding this scholarship or application, please contact Catherine Bradshaw by phone at 415-450-1495 or by email at cbradshaw@sfachievers.org.

To apply for the college program at San Francisco Achievers (SFA), please complete all sections of this application form and submit all attachments. Note that some sections will require information from your parent/guardian, so consult them and obtain any missing information before beginning. Incomplete or missing materials will jeopardize consideration for this award. SFA reserves the right to disqualify incomplete or late applications. A complete application includes the following materials (Additional information on the required attachments can be found in Section 7: Attachments of this form):

- This Form
- Essay – Why Attend College?
- Essay – Personal Statement
- Two Recommendations
- High School Transcript
- Proof of Financial Need

To submit this application, you may mail the complete packet to San Francisco Achievers, 244 Kearny St., Fl 6, San Francisco, CA 94108. You may also submit your scanned application packet electronically to cbradshaw@sfachievers.org or by fax to 415-484-7148.

Section 1: Student Information

Legal name: First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name	Gender	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY)
			<input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F	/ /
High School	Graduation Year		Text message OK?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Student's Email Address	Home Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if primary	Cell Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if primary
	()		()	
Student's Mailing Address	Apt #	City	State	Zip
Student's Primary Residence, if different than above	Apt #	City	State	Zip

Section 2: Parent/Legal Guardian Information (Complete with Parent/Guardian)

Parent/Legal Guardian's Last Name	First Name	Relationship to Student	Text message OK?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Email Address	Home Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if primary	Work Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if primary
	()		()	
Parent/Legal Guardian's Last Name	First Name	Relationship to Student	Text message OK?	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Email Address	Home Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if primary	Work Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if primary
	()		()	

Section 3: Student/Family Demographic Information (Complete with Parent/Guardian)

Are you designated as an English Learner (EL)? Yes No Not sure

Are you designated as a Special Education student with an Individualized Education Program (IEP)? Yes No Not sure

What is the primary language spoken at home? English Spanish Other: _____

What is the highest education level of the student's father/parent 1? Less than high school High school graduate Some college
 Bachelor's degree Some post graduate Advanced degree (e.g. master's, doctorate)

What is the highest education level of the student's mother/parent 2? Less than high school High school graduate Some college
 Bachelor's degree Some post graduate Advanced degree (e.g. master's, doctorate)

Select the ethnicities with which you most closely identify. American Indian or Alaskan Native Black or African-American Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
 Asian or Southeast Asian Hispanic or Latino White (non-Hispanic)

Section 4: College/University Information

List your top three (3) school choices to which you have applied to or intend to apply to.	Location (City, State)
1.	
2.	
3.	

What major(s) are you considering? (Please rank in order of preference)

What job/career(s) are you considering? (Please rank in order of preference)

Section 5: Activities, Employment, and Goals

List up to three (3) extracurricular activities you have been involved in.	Briefly describe any responsibilities or leadership positions you held while participating in this activity.	Dates you were involved in this activity? (MM/YY to MM/YY)
1.		
2.		
3.		

Why are these activities important to you? How did they influence the person you have become? If you did not participate in extracurricular activities, please describe how you have occupied your time. You may provide your answers on an additional sheet with your full name and "Extracurricular Activities" written in the top right hand corner.

List up to three (3) jobs or volunteer positions you have held.	Briefly describe responsibilities or leadership positions you held while at this job. Please indicate if the position was paid (P) or volunteer (V).	Dates you were employed? (MM/YY to MM/YY)
1.	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> V	
2.	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> V	
3.	<input type="checkbox"/> P <input type="checkbox"/> V	

How has your employment, volunteer or paid, influenced the person you have become? If you have not been employed, please describe how you have occupied your time. You may provide your answers on an additional sheet with your full name and "Employment" written in the top right hand corner.

Section 6: Financial Information (Complete with Parent/Guardian. Note that 'Family' refers to both birth parents in most cases OR the current household if not applicable. 'You' refers to the student. If you are uncertain how to respond, please contact SF Achievers staff.)

On whom are you presently dependent for your primary financial support? (i.e. Who contributes the bulk of the household income that supports the student?)	Are you an orphan, in foster care, or a ward/dependent of the court? If yes, please explain below and provide supporting documentation.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I am currently: <input type="checkbox"/> No

Are YOU currently working? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	How many hours do YOU work per week, on average?	What is YOUR average weekly income?

What is the current total value of YOUR cash, savings, checking, and/or investment accounts? Include educational savings accounts or educational investment accounts such as UGMAs.	What is the current total value of your FAMILY's cash, savings, checking, and/or investment accounts?

What is your FAMILY's total income from all sources? Include both parents unless your parents are separated/divorced AND one parent is no longer financially supporting you. Include your stepparent's income if your supporting parent(s) has remarried. If you live with a legal guardian, use that person's income and comment below. If you are in foster care, use your personal income and the cash value of any benefits you receive.

Less than \$20,000 \$40,000 - \$60,000 Comments:

 \$20,000 - \$40,000 \$60,000 - \$80,000

 \$40,000 - \$60,000 More than \$80,000

Does your FAMILY's income include any federal, state, or court-mandated benefits? Mark all that apply. If any are not included, please specify in the space below.	What is the total amount of federal, state, or court-mandated benefits received last year?	Does your FAMILY qualify for free or reduced meals? If yes, please specify.
<input type="checkbox"/> Veterans <input type="checkbox"/> TANF <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Untaxed Social Security <input type="checkbox"/> Child Support <input type="checkbox"/> AFDC <input type="checkbox"/> Disability		<input type="checkbox"/> Free <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced <input type="checkbox"/> None. Do not qualify.

List all of the people living in your household, including their ages, relationship to you, and if they were attending college this year or will next year. Include all households in which you live at least part of the time or households that include a parent who is financially supporting you.

What are your parents/stepparents/guardian's occupations? Please list occupations for each person you included when calculating your family income.

Briefly, explain any special family or financial circumstances you feel have not been addressed in the previous questions or would negatively impact your ability to pay for college. You may provide your answers on an additional sheet with your full name and "Special Circumstances" written in the top right hand corner.

Section 7: Attachments (Include these on separate pages with your application form.)

Two essays are required. We recommend that you type your essays in double-space, 12pt font, Times New Roman with 1 inch margins. Other formats will be accepted, provided your writing is clear and legible. Remember to check your essays for typos or grammatical errors.

Essay 1: Why attend college? (1 page)

Briefly explain why college is important to you. What motivates you to go to college? What will a college degree mean to you personally and how will you use it?

Essay 2: Personal Statement (2 pages)

Tell us about yourself. What is important for us to know about you? You may want to address one or more of the following: your personal history, your goals and dreams, challenges you have faced, and/or how you overcome obstacles.

Two letters of recommendation are required. Letters may be submitted via email to cbradshaw@sfachievers.org with the subject line "SFA Scholarship Recommendation on behalf of (your name)," by fax to 415-484-7148, or included in your application packet in a sealed envelope. Official letterhead is not needed. Please provide contact information for those people who will be submitting a letter below. We may contact them with questions or if the letter is not received.

Name		
Phone Number	()	()
Email Address		
Relationship to Student		

You must submit documentation supporting your academic and financial status.

High School Transcript

You must submit a recent official transcript that includes the Fall term of your senior year. If you attended junior college while enrolled in high school, you should submit a transcript for that school as well. Do not submit unofficial transcripts or report cards, however original seals are not necessary.

Tax Forms

Most applicants should submit a copy of the parent/guardian(s)'s 2014 Federal 1040 Income Tax Return to establish financial need. If the applicant filed separately, submit a copy of the applicant's tax return as well. If you are unable to provide these documents, attach a written statement explaining the circumstances and include any supporting documentation. If you are unsure what to submit, please contact us for additional clarification.

Additional Documents, as needed

If additional documents are need to support your application, please include them with your application. For example, if you are an emancipated minor, you are a ward of the court, or you lack federal income returns, you should submit any documentation that will help to explain your special circumstances.

Authorization and Certification Contract

Students should initial each item and sign below. **An additional parent/guardian signature is required if you are under the age of 18 at the time of signing.**

_____ I have read the application instructions. I am aware that incomplete or missing information on my application will jeopardize my eligibility for this award. I understand that it is my responsibility to follow up with San Francisco Achievers staff if I have questions or concerns about my application.
Initial

_____ I pledge to use the proceeds from any San Francisco Achievers award for books, tuition, fees, supplies, and equipment related to my college education. I understand that use of my award proceeds for any purposes unrelated to my college education will result in the revocation of my award and will necessitate the repayment to San Francisco Achievers of all award funds I have received.
Initial

_____ I certify that all the information in my application materials is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If asked, I agree to provide proof supporting the statements I have made in my application. I understand that the inclusion of false or misleading information will result in the disqualification of my application and will necessitate the repayment of award I have received.
Initial

_____ I give permission to high school, college/university, federal, state, or county officials to release to San Francisco Achievers information and documents concerning my financial, academic, and personal circumstances as they relate to my application and my scholarship eligibility during the period in which I am receiving San Francisco Achievers award funds.
Initial

_____ I hereby give San Francisco Achievers, its employees, assigns, and agents, permission to utilize and/or publish work I produce in San Francisco Achievers activities and to utilize and/or publish photographs or video taken during program activities or at special events sponsored by San Francisco Achievers where I may appear. These photographs, student products, and video materials may be used in publications, audio-visual presentations, promotional literature, advertising, or any other manner without compensation to the student, parents, or guardian.
Initial

My signature affirms my acceptance of the above Authorization and Certification Contract.

Student Signature

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date