



Tzu Chi Scholars 2012

Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation

\$1,000 NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.

Tzu Chi Scholars is a scholarship program funded by Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation to recognize and provide financial assistance to outstanding college-bound high school graduates. Tzu Chi Scholars are selected on the basis of their financial need, academic achievement, and community involvement. Each Scholar will receive an award of \$1,000. A small number of Scholars may be further recognized for a four-year total scholarship award of up to \$4,000 if certain eligibility requirements and criteria are met. In Chinese, "tzu" means compassion and "chi" means relief. Founded in 1966 by Dharma Master Cheng Yen, the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation has dedicated itself to the areas of charitable services, medical services, education and environmental protection. Guided by the four basic Buddhist principles of kindness, compassion, joy, and unselfish giving, Tzu Chi strives to ease suffering on earth and to inspire compassion in others by promoting community volunteerism, both locally and internationally. Through sincerity, integrity, trust, and honesty, Tzu Chi volunteers serve all who need assistance, regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion. In addition, Tzu Chi has established bone marrow registries and provides services for international relief. Please visit our website at www.us.tzuchi.org.

Eligibility

1. Demonstrates financial need for college tuition
2. Is a U.S. high school graduating senior or equivalent
3. Has a minimum 3.0 GPA
4. Will enroll in an accredited U.S. college full-time for the entire academic year 2012-2013

Documents Required

1. A completed Tzu Chi Scholarship application form
2. An official high school transcript
3. A copy of one of the three following document(s) demonstrating financial need:
 - a. Family's complete set of 2011 1040 U.S. Income Tax Return including all schedules, or
 - b. Family's complete set of 2010 1040 U.S. Income Tax Return including all schedules and most recent 2011 W-2, or
 - c. Any official documentation which serves as proof of financial hardship
4. Two letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, and/or other advisors
5. A typed autobiography (minimum two pages) that explains why you should be awarded a scholarship. Please include all of the following:
 - Reason for your financial need and application for this educational scholarship
 - Your personal and academic achievements with specific examples
 - Your academic and career plans with specific goals
 - Your past and current involvement, as well as future plans, towards making a difference in your community
6. A one-page short essay about Tzu Chi, based on the information you've gathered from websites, publications, news articles, etc. Please explain what you have learned about Tzu Chi that inspires you in any way. Express your thoughts openly and honestly.

* Only applications which include the complete set of required documents mentioned above will be considered.

** For scholarship application and information, please visit our website at www.us.tzuchi.org.

*** Recipients of the scholarship will be announced by mail on May 15, 2012.

Application Process & Award Announcement

1. Please send your application package to your nearest Tzu Chi Foundation Regional Office and indicate:

Attn: Tzu Chi Scholars Program

- ✧ **National Headquarters** (S. CA/S. NV/AZ/UT/NM/CO)
1100 S. Valley Center Ave., San Dimas, CA 91773
Tel: 909-447-7799
- ✧ **Central Region** (N. TX/KS/OK/AR/TN)
534 W. Belt Line Rd., Richardson, TX 75080
Tel: 972-680-8869
- ✧ **Mid-Atlantic Region** (KY/PA/WV/DE/NJ)
Commerce Rd., Cedar Grove, NJ 07009
Tel: 973-857-8666
- ✧ **Midwest Region** (OH/ND/SD/MN/WI/MI/NE/IA/MO/IL/IN)
1430 Plainfield Rd., Darien, IL 60561
Tel: 630-963-6601
- ✧ **Northeast Region** (NY/VT/NH/ME/MA/RI/CT)
137-77 Northern Blvd., Flushing, NY 11354
Tel: 718-888-0866
- ✧ **Northwest Region** (N. CA/N. NV/OR/WA/ID/MT/WY)
2355 Oakland Rd., San Jose, CA 95131
Tel: 408-457-6969
- ✧ **Pacific Islands Region** (HI/GU/AK)
1238 Wilhelmina Rise, Honolulu, HI 96816
Tel: 808-737-8885
- ✧ **Southern Region** (S. TX/LA/FL/MS/AL/GA)
6200 Corporate Dr., Houston, TX 77036
Tel: 713-270-9988
- ✧ **Washington D.C. Region** (DC/MD/NC/SC/VA)
1516 Mooring Dr., Reston, VA 20190
Tel: 703-707-8606

2. The application form and supporting documents must be postmarked by March 9, 2012.
3. A home visit/interview may be required in the application process.

* Tzu Chi Scholars will be honored at the Scholarship Award Ceremony at the nearest Tzu Chi Regional Office on June 16, 2012. The \$1,000 award will be directly deposited in the account of the student's college of choice when all forms are completed and processed.



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Scholarship Application Form Application postmark deadline: Mar 9, 2012.

* Please PRINT clearly

APPLICANT					
Name	Last	First	<input type="checkbox"/> Male	Social Security No.	
			<input type="checkbox"/> Female		
Address			Date of Birth	MM/DD/YY	
			Home Phone	()	
			Cell Phone	()	
Parent or Guardian			Student's E-mail		
High School			High School Address		
Counselor			High School Phone Number		
College You Plan to Attend			Planned Major		
GPA		Ethnic Group (Optional)	<input type="checkbox"/> African American, Black <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American (original country _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Asian (country _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic, Latino (country _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Mexican American, Chicano <input type="checkbox"/> Native American, Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican <input type="checkbox"/> White or Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____		
Extracurricular Activities in HS					
Financial Documents Included <input type="checkbox"/> 1040 U.S. Tax Return <input type="checkbox"/> Others _____					
Household Income:				Number of People in Your Household	
<input type="checkbox"/> Below \$15,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$15,001-\$30,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$30,001-\$50,000 <input type="checkbox"/> above \$50,000					
REFERENCES					
Name	Relationship	Phone Number	Address		
I certify that the information contained in this application is true.					
Applicant's Signature _____				Date _____	