



## **Awareness Garden Foundation 2023 Scholarship Program Announcement**

In 2003 the Awareness Garden Foundation established The Awareness Garden in Lynchburg, Virginia to honor the families, friends, and caregivers whose lives have been touched by cancer. In 2004 the Awareness Garden Scholarship Program was established to help students whose lives have been impacted by cancer or who plan to work in a cancer related field to pursue their educational goals.

In 2023 the Awareness Garden Foundation will award at least one \$2,500 scholarship to a student attending an accredited two or four-year college, university, or technical school. Those who wish to apply for this scholarship must meet the following requirements:

- **Application must be received by the Awareness Garden Foundation by 5:00 p.m., March 3, 2023. Late applications will not be accepted.**
- **Incomplete applications will not be accepted.**
- Children of present Awareness Garden Foundation board members will not be eligible to apply.
- All information must be completed as noted. (Applications must be typed or clearly written and essays must be typed. All materials must be submitted in hard copy.)
- Application should be mailed to the address listed below.

**The Awareness Garden Foundation  
Attn: Scholarship Committee  
P.O. Box 3231  
Lynchburg, Virginia 24503  
Contact: Vikki Sterne 434-384-6740 or [vikki@awarenessgarden.org](mailto:vikki@awarenessgarden.org)**

Applications will be available online at [www.awarenessgarden.org](http://www.awarenessgarden.org) or from school guidance and/or financial aid departments.

# GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the Awareness Garden Foundation Scholarship Program is to assist students whose lives have been impacted by cancer or who wish to pursue work in a cancer related field. In 2023 at least one Awareness Garden scholarship in the amount of \$2,500 will be awarded.

## **I. REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Applicants should reside within the counties of Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell, or the cities of Bedford or Lynchburg in the state of Virginia.
2. Applicants must show evidence of acceptance or enrollment in an accredited 2- or 4-year college, university, or technical school.
3. Applicants must include in their application submission written recommendations from two teachers and one personal acquaintance. The **Letter of Recommendation Form** is found in the application packet. If applicants have not attended school in the past five years, three personal references will be acceptable.
4. Applicants must submit an essay addressing all topics listed below. While the Selection Committee is concerned about the quality of their writing it will be primarily concerned about the quality of their thinking. Essays must be approximately 500 words long, **typed and double spaced**, and address the following topics:
  - a. How has their experience with cancer affected their life and their value system?
  - b. How has their experience with cancer affected their volunteer/extracurricular activities?
  - c. What are their career goals, and how has their experience with cancer affected those goals?
  - d. How will this scholarship assist them in achieving their career goals?

## **II. SELECTION CRITERIA:**

1. Applicants must submit an essay in which they clearly outline their career goals and demonstrate how their lives, value systems, activities and career goals have been affected by their experience with cancer. This essay should also indicate how this scholarship could assist them in achieving those goals.
2. Applicants must submit evidence of academic potential and performance such as high school and/or college GPA's.
3. Applicants must submit a typewritten resume listing their extracurricular activities; volunteer and paid job experience; and honors and awards

## **III. EVALUATION CRITERIA:**

1. Effectiveness of applicant's essay in responding to questions posed above in **I., 4. a), b), c) and d).**
2. Evidence of academic motivation and potential for success as demonstrated in the recommendation letters.
3. Demonstration of leadership, extracurricular activities, community service, and work experience as outlined in the resume.

**THE AWARENESS GARDEN FOUNDATION  
2023 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION COVER PAGE**

Instructions: Please type or clearly print all requested information. Essays must be typewritten.

Applicant's Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) or Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Name/Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate the major you intend to pursue in college: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have been accepted, identify the college, university, or technical school where you are accepted and will attend.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

List the colleges, universities, or technical schools to which you applied for admission and specify whether you were accepted, rejected, or have not yet heard. (If more than five, include an attachment.)

Name	Accepted	Rejected	Waiting List	Not heard
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

Notify Vikki Sterne (434-384-6740, [vikki@awarenessgarden.org](mailto:vikki@awarenessgarden.org)) of acceptances received after  
March 3, 2023.

## SCHOLARSHIP AGREEMENT

**Applicant:** I certify that all statements made in this application are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the scholarship is contingent upon the following items:

- I will notify the Awareness Garden Foundation by June 30, 2023, regarding which college, university, or technical school I will attend to allow scholarship funds to be paid directly to the school.
- The period of my scholarship award will be from August 1, 2023, through July 31, 2024. Any request for exceptions to this time frame must be submitted in writing to the Board of Directors and include a full explanation of circumstances for the request.
- If requested, I will inform the Awareness Garden Scholarship Committee of my academic progress at my chosen college, university, or technical school.
- I will permit the Awareness Garden Foundation to use all information obtained as part of the scholarship application process for any reason, including, but not limited to, public relations announcements or my attendance at Awareness Garden events.
- I will keep the Awareness Garden informed of my current home and school addresses and contact information.

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**Applicant's Signature**

**Date**

**Parent/Guardian:** I have reviewed the application and the verify statements are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I have reviewed and fully understand the terms of the Scholarship Agreement and agree with the requirements.

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**Parent/Guardian's Signature**

**Date**

**Guidance Counselor:** I have reviewed the applicant's responses and verify that they are correct, insofar as the official school records indicate.

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**Guidance Counselor's Signature**

**Date**

**APPLICATION TIMELINE:**

Applications must be **received** by the Awareness Garden Foundation no later than **5:00 p.m. on March 3, 2023. Late and incomplete applications will not be accepted.** All information must be completed as noted (application must be typed or clearly written and essays must be typed. All material must be submitted in hard copy.)

- DATE: March 3** Completed applications and all supportive materials are due to Awareness Garden Foundation.
- DATE: April 9** Semi-finalists are notified of their selection.
- DATE: April 19-23** Semi-finalists are interviewed by the Scholarship Committee.
- DATE: April 26** Award recipients are notified of their selection.
- DATE: April 30** Awarded recipients must notify Awareness Garden of their decision regarding scholarship acceptance.
- DATE: May 16** Award ceremony will take place at the Awareness Garden.

**NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT:**

The Awareness Garden Foundation scholarship process is fair and demonstrates equal access to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other characteristics protected by law.

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST:**

Please submit copies of the following:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Fully completed and signed application, scholarship agreement, and attachments.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Certified high school or college transcript
- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete resume including extracurricular activities, volunteer work, awards and honors.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Three letters of recommendation.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Teachers (2)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Personal (1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Essay on topics provided.

**LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FORM**

Name of Scholarship Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

To the Recommendation Writer:

Please return 5 copies this completed form, in a sealed envelope directly to the person applying for the scholarship. **YOU MUST ALSO ENCLOSE FIVE COPIES OF A PERSONAL LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION WITH THIS FORM.** These items accompany the student's application submission.

The following form is to be completed by the person making the recommendation.

1. What words come to mind when describing the applicant?
2. Please rate this student by circling a number from 1 – 5. (5 is the highest rating, 1 the lowest.)

Quality:

Student Rating:

	Lowest					Highest	
Academic Motivation	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Academic Potential	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Creativity	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Self Discipline	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Leadership	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Initiative	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Reaction to Setbacks	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Oral Communication	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Classroom Participation	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Independence	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Problem Solving	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	
Overall Impression	1	2	3	4	5	( ) No basis for judgment	

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Office) \_\_\_\_\_ (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_

(Cannot be a relative)

How long have you known the student? \_\_\_\_\_