



WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL PTO Alumni Association Challenge Scholarship

DEADLINE MAY 1st at 4:15pm

THE PROGRAM

The Westside High School alumni have established an annual scholarship fund to help finance education for WHS graduating seniors. The program is independently managed by the Westside High School Scholarship Committee, a school-based educational support team consisting of WHS faculty and directed by the College Counselor. Awards are given without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sex, disability, or national origin.

ELIGIBILITY

Endowment scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors. Applicants must:

- Have demonstrated ability to overcome challenges in their pursuit to graduation from high school;
- Be a graduating high school senior in good standing;
- Have a minimum 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA);
- Be enrolled or planning to be enrolled in a full or part-time course of study at an accredited 2-year or 4-year college or university, or another accredited institution of post-secondary skill training.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Awards are \$500.00 each. Each year the number of awarded scholarships is dependent upon the amount fundraised by the *Alumni Annual Scholarship Fund*.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants are solely responsible for gathering and submitting all necessary information. All information submitted is confidential and will be reviewed by WHS Scholarship Committee personnel only. Students must:

1. Prepare a list of activities you have participated in and/or hours spent working or volunteering. Activities may include participation in WHS sports, clubs, etc., community service and paid employment.
2. Submit electronically --“Challenges I Have Overcome to Graduate from High School”—which may be shown in the following formats:
 - an essay (up to 250 words) or
 - in a format including visuals (with up to 150 words)—
 - posters (up to 22” x 28”),
 - scrapbooks/brochures (upto 4 pages 10”x10”/8.5”x11”),
 - Power Point (6 slides), or
 - video (45-90 seconds).
- Supplemental items must be scanned or be in an electronic format and attached to the application email. **NO PAPER/HARD COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**
3. Once the scanned application is received, the student transcript and recommendations will be pulled from Naviance by the Westside College Counselor.



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RECOMMENDATIONS

- Recommendations may be written by WHS teachers, coaches, club sponsors, administrators or staff.
- Recommendations can be requested in Naviance. [Request the letter from the College Counselor and upload it into Naviance for the teacher, coach, etc., to access it.]
- If you are requesting a recommendation from your employer, please send the request by email with the recommendation form attached. Your employer should send the recommendation directly to aturner1@houstonisd.org

*Please be sure to give each teacher or staff member enough time to complete recommendation form in Naviance before the **May 1st** deadline.*

The application must be SCANNED and supplemental items, such as the essay or visual presentation, must be in electronic format or SCANNED and attached to the application email.

EMAIL the application, (with the attachments), to Mrs. Alaina Turner at aturner1@houstonisd.org by May 1st, 4:15pm deadline. NO PAPER/HARD COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

RECIPIENT SELECTION

Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of their personal essay, activities, participation in school activities, and adult recommendations.

Scholarships awarded will be based on WHS Scholarship Committee selection procedures and available funds. Not all applicants will receive awards.

Selection of recipients will be made by the WHS Scholarship Committee. In no instance will any member or officer of WHS PTO or Alumni Association participate in the selection. All applicants will be notified of their status on or before Senior Awards Night.

PAYMENT OF AWARDS

Scholarship payments will be authorized by the WHS Scholarship Committee and processed by the PTO Treasurer. Checks will be made payable directly to the university, college, or post-secondary training institute provided by **scholarship recipient with form due to WHS PTO Treasurer by June 1.**

OBLIGATIONS

Scholarship recipients must enroll in their education programs no later than twelve (12) months after their awards are given. Recipients are required to notify the PTO Treasurer of any changes of address, school enrollment, or other pertinent information.



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REVISION POLICY

The general conditions and procedures under which scholarships are made are subject to periodic review by the WHS Alumni Challenge Scholarship, including termination of the program.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on the Westside High School Alumni Challenge Scholarship, or to download a copy of the scholarship application, please visit Naviance or the PTO website <https://www.westsidehighpto.org/scholarship> and Click **Alumni Association Scholarship**.

OR

Contact: Ms. Alaina Turner
Westside High School College Access Center
aturner1@houstonisd.org



WESTSIDE HIGH SCHOOL PTO Alumni Association Challenge Scholarship

Application Form

DEADLINE MAY 1st at 4:15pm

Date: _____

Student's Name: _____

Dean's Name: _____ House: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Parent's/Guardian's Name: _____

Scan and email this application to Ms. Turner to aturner1@houstonisd.org by **May 1**.
Be sure to include the following attachments, either scanned or attached electronically:

- this cover sheet
- list of WHS activities, employment and/or community service
- your 250-word essay or visual presentation with electronic files emailed to aturner1@houstonisd.org
- one (1) adult recommendation (*College Counselor will pull from Naviance*)

Adult's name: _____

Students: If you need a teacher or staff member recommendation, please request a copy of the Adult Recommendation from the College Counselor and upload it to Naviance.

*If requesting a recommendation from an employer, please be sure to give each teacher, staff member, or employer enough time to complete recommendation before the **May 1st** deadline.*