



SPINA BIFIDA ASSOCIATION **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The Spina Bifida Association (SBA) Scholarship Program was established in 1988 to enhance opportunities for persons born with Spina Bifida to achieve their full potential through higher education. Scholarships from SBA make it possible for the student to choose educational pursuits that may otherwise be outside of financial reach.

The SBA applauds your goals and determination to pursue higher education. Please remember that scholarships are competitive and funds are limited, making it impossible to grant every request. The Scholarship Committee evaluates each *complete* application on its merits based on the criteria set for the scholarship program. The Scholarship Committee awards the scholarship after carefully weighing all of the factors for selection.

SBA One-year scholarship – Applicant must be **high school graduate or possess a G.E.D.** Students will be granted up to \$2,000 for one year. There may be up to six scholarships awarded.

Only completed applications will be considered. Applicants must submit their completed application to arrive at SBA's office no later than **Friday, March 9, 2012.**

PROGRAM CRITERIA:

SBA One-Year Scholarship Criteria:

- ♦ Applicant must have Spina Bifida. A physician's statement of disability is required, and must be submitted on letterhead stationary of the hospital/clinic/office. Letter must include the physician's address and phone number.
- ♦ Applicant must be an applicant of, enrolled in, or accepted by a four-year university, junior college, approved trade, vocational, or business school. A letter of acceptance is required. For those applicants who have not yet been accepted, final awarding of the scholarship is dependent upon acceptance.

SBA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES:

The SBA Scholarship Program administers the scholarship funds under the following guidelines:

- ♦ Individuals must meet all criteria of scholarship for which applying: financial need, academic record, other efforts shown in school, work history, community service, leadership and commitment to personal goals will all be evaluated during the rating process.
- ♦ An applicant can be a recipient of the SBA Scholarship Program no more than twice.
- ♦ The number of one-year scholarships awarded will be determined by the Scholarship Committee and is based on funds available for scholarships.
- ♦ The Scholarship Committee has the final authority for determining recipients. All applicants will receive written notification of the Scholarship Committee's decision.
- ♦ Immediate family members of SBA Board, Scholarship Committee and Staff are ineligible for scholarship awards.

Spina Bifida Association Scholarship Program - 2012

Work Experience: What part-time or full-time jobs have you had during the last two years?

Employer

Immediate Supervisor

Position Held

Dates

- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
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Your Application Must Be Accompanied by the Following:

- Copy of current official school transcript or equivalent.
- Standardized test scores (SAT, ACT, GRE or equivalent). Adult students should submit a recent transcript from a college/university, approved technical/trade school or business college.
- Letter/Statement/Registration document verifying acceptance by school/college.
- A physician's statement of disability submitted on letterhead stationery of the hospital/clinic/office. Letter must include the physician's address and phone number. *A detailed medical history is not needed.*
- Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA/www.fafsa.com) or your State Student Aid Forms. *Please complete them to the best of your ability, and send SBA a copy of the forms. An original is not necessary. Additional information that impacts family financial situation (job loss/change; siblings in college, etc) may be provided.*
- Personal statement explaining educational goals (up to 3 typewritten pages). *Please include your reasons for selecting those goals, and describe any outstanding accomplishments or contributions made through school, extra-curricular activities, religious institution, or SBA group member activities, as well as any community and volunteer work in which you have participated.*
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation from faculty members.
- One (1) Personal Letter of Recommendation (cannot be a family member or academic association).

Applications will be considered only if completed in full and submitted with all the required information. All information will be held in the strictest confidence.

Applications may be e-mailed (preferred) or mailed. Applications must be received by Friday, March 9, 2012

Email (preferred): cjhead@sbaa.org or **Address:**

Spina Bifida Association
Attn: Scholarship Committee
4590 MacArthur Boulevard, NW Suite 250
Washington, DC 20007-4226

Please note:

- Specific criteria must be met to qualify for this scholarship.
- Please thoroughly review these criteria before applying.
- Application must be completed using this form, typewritten or printed in ink.
- Electronic submissions are encouraged.

You will be notified on or before April 30th of the Committee's decision.

Revised: January 5, 2012