

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR 2023 COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM COVER

Applications must be submitted by 5:00 PM on April 14, 2023

TO BE COMPLETED BY HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR STUDENT

PURPOSE OF THE BOARD OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE:

To advise the Board of Supervisors on providing financial assistance and support to non-profit and 501 (c) organizations and groups with monies received from the Valley Forge Casino Resort who propose projects and plans having a direct impact on the community and residents of Upper Merion Township and to provide college scholarships to noteworthy high school seniors.

TIMETABLE FOR PUBLICITY AND ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS:

- Relaunch program 100 days prior to Application Due Date –**April 14, 2023**
 - Announcement to public: UMT Social Media, eNewsletter, LED sign, and UMGA-TV will scroll 2023 BCA Application Announcement – starting Dec. 2, 2022
 - Applications **must be postmarked by 5:00 PM on April 14, 2023**
 - BCA Review of Applications from April 17 – May 2, 2023
 - BCA Presentation to BOS, Announcement of Award Recipients – **May 11, 2023**
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**MAIL COMPLETED APPLICATION by CLOSE OF BUSINESS (5:00 PM) on
APRIL 14, 2023 to:**

Board of Community Assistance
c/o Gerri Vattimo
Upper Merion Township
175 West Valley Forge Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406

STUDENT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ **CELL PHONE:** _____

EMAIL: _____

TOWNSHIP: _____ **DATE OF BIRTH:** _____

Name of Father, Stepfather, or Male Guardian: _____

Occupation: _____ Employed by: _____

Name of Mother, Stepmother, or Female Guardian: _____

Occupation: _____ Employed by: _____

Parent Cell Phone: _____ Parent Email: _____

List all other scholarship(s) that you have applied for or expect to apply for:

If you are currently anticipating receiving student aid, please identify the source, amount and duration of the award.

Secondary School Name: _____

Address: _____

Expected Date of Graduation: _____ Weighted GPA: _____

The approximate number of students in graduating class: _____

List any special honors, prizes or recognition you have received from your school or a community group:

List extracurricular school activities you were engaged in during secondary school years: music organizations, athletics, publications, etc. Indicate the year or years you participated.

Are there any special circumstances that the Board of Community Assistance should consider when reviewing your application? Please describe and explain.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

You are required to submit with this application a project plan which includes a **minimum of 15 community-service hours** that you are required to perform if granted a BCA scholarship. **Your service project must commence by June 1, 2023.** NOTE: You cannot submit a past community service project that has been already completed or is near completion. For example, senior graduation projects cannot be used as your proposed BCA community service project. NOTE: Prior community service can be included in the application to demonstrate the student's character, but will not be considered as the proposed project.

In your project plan, please describe and explain how you expect to fulfill this obligation. **Indicate whether your community service will be performed OUTSIDE or WITHIN Upper Merion Township. The Project Approval Form is to be completed and signed by organization or sponsoring adult. Attach to Application.**

The BCA will award a scholarship based on the merit of the application. The dollar amount of the scholarship awarded will dictate the minimum number of hours required to receive the scholarship as detailed (e.g., If the BCA grants the student \$3,000, then 30 hours of service toward the approved project is required to be completed).

Community Service Commitment:

If awarded a scholarship of:

- \$7,000 - \$10,000 you must complete **50** hours of your planned project
- \$5,000 - \$6,999 you must complete **40** hours of your planned project
- \$3,000 - \$4,999 you must complete **30** hours of your planned project
- \$1,500 - \$2,999 you must complete **20** hours of your planned project
- \$500 - \$1,499 you must complete **15** hours of your planned project

As part of receiving a BCA Scholarship, you are required to submit a completion validation letter from the host organization. If your project doesn't involve an organization, then a signed verification letter is required from the adult who provided project oversight. The letter must certify your completion of the required hours. Photos take of project activity are to be included in the report as validation of completion. All letters of verification and the project summary report are due by **November 30, 2023.**

The BCA will follow up with each scholarship recipient in the fall to ensure that each individual has a plan for completion of their community service project by **November 30th**.

Note: Scholarship checks will not be issued to your college student account if the student fails to submit the two required documents: 1) a letter written and signed by the project sponsor that certifies that the student completed the required number of service hours, and 2) the project report summary including project photos. **Failure to submit both documents by the BCA's deadline constitutes a breach of this agreement and a nullification of the scholarship award.**

Please estimate your annual college expenses for:

Indicate Name of College or University you plan to attend. (If **UNDECIDED**, please note “undecided;” upon deciding, please contact the Township, so the BCA can be informed of your choice of school):

SCHOOL Name: _____

Address: _____

What general course of study do you plan to take? _____

Tuition: \$ _____

Room and Board: \$ _____

Books & Fees \$ _____

Total: \$ _____

Minus College Grants \$ _____

Minus Scholarships \$ _____

Minus Other Funding \$ _____

Minus Loans \$ _____

Net Total: \$ _____

Please attach the following required documents to your application:

- (1) Transcript of secondary school scholastic record.**
- (2) Letter of Recommendation to be signed by your teacher(s), principal or guidance counselor.**
- (3) Copy of college/university acceptance letter.**
- (4) Financial Aid Cover Letter.**
- (5) Project Approval Form signed by your project recipient which acknowledges that the project is approved for implementation.**

WAIVER: The Board of Community Assistance will be discussing the personal information which is part of this scholarship application (grades and other matters). Please sign the release below.

Applicant: _____

Parent or Guardian (if applicant is under 18): _____

Date: _____

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the information contained in this application for Community Assistance is correct to the best of my knowledge.

I hereby certify that I have read the Board Policy related to the Board of Community Assistance and Disbursement Guidelines and fully acknowledge that I understand the policy and guidelines set forth.

I hereby certify that I am a high school senior in good standing and qualified and eligible to submit Part II of the Application for Community Assistance.

I hereby authorize Upper Merion Township to investigate the truthfulness of all information which I have provided in this application. I understand that my misrepresentation or omission of information requested in this application may be cause for disqualification.

Further, I understand that failure to submit a completed project report per due date (**November 30, 2023**) constitutes a breach of this agreement and a nullification of the final scholarship award.

Date: _____

Signature of High School Senior: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if under 18): _____