

Upper Merion Township Public Information Office
175 West Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406
Phone: 610-265-2600 Fax: 610-265-0482

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

Upper Merion Board of Community Assistance Application Process Opens for 2024 Awards

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA (November 20, 2023) – As of November 20, 2022, the Upper Merion Township Board of Community Assistance (BCA) application process is officially open for the 2024 awards. Non-profit organizations and high school students (seniors and new this year, juniors) residing in Upper Merion Township are encouraged to apply for one of many possible grants that are awarded through the BCA. Applications will be accepted through April 1, 2024.

SENIORS AND JUNIORS ELIGIBLE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION:

The scholarship program will include high school juniors this year; scholarship winners who are juniors will have a 10-month project window, versus a 6-month project window for seniors. The BCA with support from the Upper Merion Township Board of Supervisors are pleased to expand the opportunity for scholarships to juniors. The benefits of this program expansion include providing junior scholarship winners added time to develop a project plan and perform a high-quality service project while still in high school.

Service Project Deadlines:

Seniors: December 2, 2024 (6-month project window; scholarship checks are issued in December 2024 in freshman year of college)

Juniors: April 1, 2025 (10-month project window; scholarship check issued in June 2025 after high school graduation)

New also this year for scholarship applications will be an Early Review Period. Applications submitted between November 20th and March 11th are eligible for a preliminary review. Feedback will be provided for application improvement. Applications that are resubmitted by the April 1st deadline with the recommended improvements may result in a higher quality application for Board consideration.

ABOUT THE BCA

The BCA was established in 2013 by the Board of Supervisors and Valley Forge Casino Resort to provide financial assistance to organizations via grants that benefit Upper Merion residents, and scholarships for graduating high school seniors who reside in Upper Merion Township. “The BCA grants provide a significant benefit to our residents and community organizations,” said Greg Waks, Township Supervisor Liaison for the BCA. “I strongly encourage all organizations that provide services to Upper Merion residents to apply. The BCA is thrilled to now invite Upper Merion’s high school juniors as well as seniors to apply for a BCA scholarship.”

In 2023, \$144,231 was awarded to 50 recipients – 27 organizations, 3 sport, and 20 scholarships, including the General von Steuben \$10,000 scholarship, and the Ronald G. Wagenmann \$5,000 scholarship. Since its inception, the BCA has provided more than \$1,650,000 in grants to local organizations and for college scholarships for Upper Merion graduates. Applications and more information about the 2024 BCA grants are available on the website by visiting umtownship.org. For more information, contact Gerri Vattimo, Upper Merion Township’s BCA Staff Liaison, at 484-636-3899 or gvattimo@umtownship.org.