

Scholarship Application

Instructions for Completing Your Scholarship Application

When you close this file, your responses will not be saved. Here is how to avoid losing your work:

1. Prepare your essay and save it to your computer with the title *YourName.docx*, *YourName.rtf*, *YourName.txt* or whatever extension is appropriate. Please, NO .pdf files.
 2. Attach your essay to an email message, put your name in the subject line, and send it, no later than February 14, 2019, to queerfoundation@queerfoundation.org.
 3. Print [SubmissionForm.pdf](#) (this file).
 4. Gather the information asked for on the Submission Form.
 5. Fill in all information requested, including signature and date.
 6. Do **(a)** or **(b)** below:
 - a. Mail completed Submission Form (pages 3 & 4 below) to Queer Foundation, P.O. Box 1206, Ravensdale, WA 98051. Be sure to have the post office postmark it no later than February 14, 2019.
- OR**
- b. Make a scan (.jpg or .pdf) of the completed Submission Form (pages 3 & 4 below), attach it to an email message, put your name in the subject line, and send the message no later than February 14, 2019, to queerfoundation@gmail.com.
7. Add queerfoundation@gmail.com to your computer's address book so that you can be sure to receive email back from Queer Foundation.

To promote effective writing by, about, and/or for queer youth, **Queer Foundation** offers to the winners of the 2018–19 high school seniors English essay contest \$1,000 scholarships to attend the U.S. college or university of their choice in the 2019–20 academic year to study queer theory or related fields. Examples of related fields are queer medical, legal, or social issues.

Queer Foundation reserves the right to award no scholarships in case no submissions merit an award.

Theme

The theme of the contest is pink ink ("We write not only about different things; we also write differently"—Brecht). (Be creative and have fun with your topic!)

The following approaches are suggestions only:

1. We're Here and We're Queer: Interviews with Queer Teenagers and Their Friends
2. Living Healthy Lives as Queer Teenagers
3. Queer Youth around the World
4. Getting Smart: Education Issues of Queer Teenagers

Contest Rules

Entries in this contest must be authored by individuals who have/are:

- (1) 18 or younger at the time of submission of their materials;
- (2) Not yet received a high school diploma at the time of submission.

Additionally, manuscripts submitted must be original. That is, they must not have been submitted for consideration for other venues (e.g. coursework, classwork, other essay contests).

Please note that all submissions entered in this contest become the property of Queer Foundation. Winners agree to the use of their manuscript by Queer Foundation, alongside their names, images, and biographical information for promotional efforts related to the Queer Foundation Effective Writing and Scholarships Program.

Evaluation Criteria

Your essay should be 3–5 pages long, 10 pages max. Be creative. Links to essays from previous years' contests are online at <http://queerfoundation.org/>.

Judges will award points based on

- originality (i.e., do you present a unique perspective?)
- accuracy (i.e., is your information credible? are names, events, places, titles, etc., correct?)
- objectivity (i.e., do you provide insight on contemporary society?)
- effectiveness (i.e., is your essay realistic and convincing?)
- motivation (i.e., do you make it clear why your topic is important?)
- usage (i.e., is your grammar, sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation correct?)

HINT: Use spellcheck, and remember that it does not identify all errors. Be sure to reread several times, and have another read your essay as well to catch mistakes you as the author can't see. Pay special attention to sentence fragments, run-on sentences, needing a new paragraph, etc. If your essay contains numerous spelling and writing errors, it cannot win.

How Are Queer Scholars Selected?

Successful gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals and their friends volunteering their time identify and coach talented and academically gifted queer youth in writing an essay dealing with the announced theme. Their friends can also submit essays. A panel of judges will evaluate the essays. Authors of winning essays will, upon passing an interview and reference check, be awarded \$1,000 scholarships to the U.S. college or university of their choice.

What Support Do Queer Scholars Receive and What Is Expected of Them?

Queer Scholars receive, as needed, mentoring, academic advising, and tutoring to enable them to succeed in their studies. In return they are expected to (a) maintain a suitable grade point average as determined by the college or university, (b) practice self care, and (c) give back to the community through doing community service, authoring queer studies papers, and/or mentoring high school or other college students. There is, however, no required check-in or report back.

Submission Form

First Name M.I. Last Name

Street Address

City State or Province ZIP or Postal Code

Country

Are you comfortable receiving mail at this address? Y N (circle one)

Your Email Address: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

Name of Your High School: _____

Your High School's City, State or Province: _____

Date you will graduate from high school: _____

Title of your essay: _____

Filename of your essay (for example, *YourName.docx*): _____

Affirmations (check all that apply)

I am not a high school graduate (as of the date I submit this application).

The essay I am submitting has not been submitted elsewhere—e.g., for a class assignment or another contest; as part of a college or job application; or for a scholarship, prize, or grant.

I acknowledge that my entry, including my English essay, becomes the property of Queer Foundation.

Queer Foundation may use my name, image, and biographical information in promotional efforts related to the Queer Foundation Effective Writing and Scholarships Program.

I subscribe to the non-discrimination policy, found in Article VII of the Queer Foundation Bylaws, prohibiting discrimination based on race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental handicap, veteran status, or marital status.

Any other information that will help us understand your application:

Signature

Date

Parent's Signature (if under 18)

Date

Problems with your application?

If you are having problems submitting the application, email us at queerfoundation@gmail.com so that we can help you.

Queer Foundation
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