



## 2021 College Scholarship Application Guidelines

Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY will award a limited number of scholarships of up to \$1000 for full-time and \$500 for part-time students. All grants must work to further our mission to empower individuals and families touched by autism spectrum disorders through support and education.

- ✓ Applicants must meet the following criteria:
  - Have a permanent address within Clinton, Franklin or Essex County. Students may be attending school outside of these counties, provided that they maintain a permanent address with the tri-county area.
  - Have a high school diploma, the equivalent to a high school diploma (i.e. GED or IEP diploma, etc.), or will obtain a high school diploma before the coursework begins.
  - Be currently enrolled, or in the process of enrolling, at a college or university (online or on-campus or non-traditional certification courses acceptable).
  - Demonstrate financial need.
- ✓ In addition, applicants must meet ONE of the following criteria:
  - Have a diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder (medical or educational). Any coursework or degree program is acceptable if it helps one advance toward independence.
  - OR be a recent (or soon to be) graduate, pursuing a degree in a field related to clinical service that could benefit people with autism. Qualifying fields may include (but are not limited to) Special Education, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech-Language Pathology, Psychology, etc.
  - OR be an adult who is pursuing coursework which expands one's knowledge in the area of autism, in order to make one more educated in their present job working with people with autism, or improve their job prospects/advance in their career in a profession related to clinical service that could benefit people with autism. Certification programs and non-degree programs are acceptable.
- ✓ Scholarship monies must be used toward college related expenses. Monies will be made available through direct payment to the college or credentialing institution. For those with ASD diagnosis, college related expenses may include, but are not limited to, tuition & college fees, room & board, books, technology (i.e. laptop, software, hardware, etc.), and academic supports and supplies.
- ✓ Scholarships are not to be used for costs of daily living (i.e. groceries, gas, clothing, etc.) or other non-academic materials.
- ✓ All requests will be reviewed by the Grant Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.
- ✓ Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY is not bound to approve funds for all scholarship applicants. It also reserves the right to deny a scholarship application.

Send completed application to:

Autism Alliance of Northeastern NY

Attn: Grants

P.O. Box 1884

Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Please email grant committee with any questions at [grants@aaneny.org](mailto:grants@aaneny.org).



## 2021 College Scholarship Application (Rev. 1/2021)

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

High School / Date of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

College / Major / Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of enrollment: \_\_\_\_\_

Full Time / Part Time / Waitlist / Undecided/ Other

**For those diagnosed with ASD**, in your own words, write one essay (100-500 words) answering AT LEAST 3 of the following questions:

- A. What does the college experience mean to you?
- B. What are your strengths and challenges (both academically and socially)?
- C. What does Autism mean to you?
- D. What do you hope to learn in college (both academically and socially)?
- E. What part of the college experience are you most excited about experiencing?
- F. What is your intended major and why did you choose it?
- G. What are your career goals and how will the college experience (or this course) help you reach those goals?
- H. In what community service groups/organizations or extracurricular activities have you been actively involved?
- I. Why do you want to go to college/take this course; how will it help you be more independent/successful?

**For those NOT diagnosed with ASD**, in your own words, write one essay (100-500 words) answering ALL of the following questions:

- A. What is your intended major/coursework, and why did you choose it?
- B. How do you foresee your degree/coursework as ultimately benefiting people with autism?
- C. What draws you to the field of autism?
- D. What experience do you have in the field of autism?
- E. Are you currently working, and if so, where? How does this position fit into your career goals?

Please include a copy of the following documentation with your application:

- Diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder, if applicable.
- County of Residency
- High school diploma or equivalent (Please send upon receiving)
- Acceptance letter from the educational institute you plan to attend (Please send upon receiving)
- Typed or handwritten essay
- Completed FASFA application, if applicable
- Copies of last four weeks of pay-stubs or copy of 2018 W-2
- Letter of Recommendation – at least one (Academic letters are preferred, but personal letters will be accepted)

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature (If under 18): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_