



February 26th, 2021

Dear Applicant:

The South Suburban Youth Service Alliance, Inc. (SSYSA), a non-for-profit organization established in 1974, is a coalition of community-based, youth-centered agencies, service providers, and other interested groups/individuals who collaborate to assist south suburban youth and families through counseling, mentoring, and education. We are pleased to provide you with the attached requirements and application for the 2020-2021 SSYSA Scholarship. SSYSA will provide one \$500 scholarship to a high school student from the south suburbs. The student must graduate in spring of 2021 and have satisfactorily completed the application as judged by the SSYSA scholarship committee.

The deadline for the scholarship application must be postmarked by **Friday, April 16th, 2021**. The student is responsible for making sure ALL DOCUMENTS (Application, 2 reference letters, high school transcript, short answer essay questions, and essay) are postmarked by that date. The applicants who will be awarded the scholarship will be notified by May 7th, 2021.

The Scholarship will be judged by a committee of members from SSYSA and will be scored using a point system. **Please read all instructions carefully and be sure to adhere to the guidelines in order to receive points in each section.**

If you have any questions regarding the scholarship application, please contact Jamie Gilmartin at 708-448-7848 or jamiiegilmartin.hec@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Jamie Gilmartin
SSYSA Scholarship Committee Member
Hope Enrichment Center
7300 West College Drive Suite 203
Palos Heights, IL 60463

South Suburban Youth Service Alliance Scholarship Application

REQUIREMENTS:

1. You must be a current high school student and receive your high school diploma in the Spring of 2021.
2. You must be a resident or student of the south suburbs.
3. You must be planning to attend a college, university, business college, or vocational school in the Fall of 2021.
4. You must complete at least 50 hours of community service.
5. You must secure two (and only two) reference letters. One reference letter needs to be from a supervisor at one of the community service/volunteer sites service work was performed. Reference letters cannot be obtained from relatives. **Reference letters should be included in the submission of your application.**
6. You must obtain your official high school transcript from your school counselor. There is a 3.0 minimum GPA requirement.
7. Mail your completed application to:

Jamie Gilmartin
 SSYSA Scholarship Committee Member
 Hope Enrichment Center
 7300 West College Drive Suite 203
 Palos Heights, IL 60463
7. All applications must be postmarked **no later than April 16th, 2021**. Any applications postmarked after the deadline **WILL NOT** be considered for the scholarship. There will be absolutely no exceptions.
8. A complete application will include: Application, High School transcripts, 2 reference letters, short answer responses, and one essay question. Please refer to the helpful checklist below to ensure your application is complete.

APPLICATION MATERIAL	COMPLETED/ENCLOSED
APPLICATION	
SHORT ANSWER ESSAY QUESTIONS (3)	
ESSAY	
REFERENCE LETTERS (2)	
HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT	

Short Answer Essay Questions

Please select any 3 of the following short answer questions; each of the 3 responses may contain a maximum of 300 words. Responses should be typed, double spaced, with 12 point Times New Roman font.

1. Where do you see yourself in 5 years?
2. Discuss a leadership experience you have had in any area of your life: school, work, athletics, family, church, community, etc. How and why did you become a leader in this area? How did this experience influence your goals?
3. Briefly describe a situation in which you felt that you or others were treated unfairly or were not given an opportunity you felt you deserved. Why do you think this happened? How did you respond? Did the situation improve as a result of your response?
4. If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?
5. If you could have any talent, what talent would that be and why?

Essay

Please answer the following question. Your response should be no longer than one page, double spaced, typed with 12 point Times New Roman font.

1. Describe an event/situation that greatly impacted your life. How has this shaped you as a person and your future goals?