

## **The GFT Foundation Scholarship Guidelines**

The Purpose of The GFT Foundation Scholarship is to help provide access to education for young people who otherwise would not receive equitable opportunity to do so.

Members of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (hereby referred to as SEAS) Parish in Swoyersville, PA who are under the age of 25 can apply for the scholarship to receive funding for higher education programs, including technical or vocational school, college, and university studies.

Awarded to two young individuals per year, the scholarship is distributed once per year of undergraduate study for a maximum of four years. The amount of the Gold GFT scholarship is \$5,000 per year of study; the Silver GFT scholarship is \$2,500 per year of study.

Aspiring students who wish to apply for the scholarship should complete the application available for download on the SEAS website, and include a digital copy of academic records, statement of financial need, and a personal essay.

Applications for 2022, as well as questions, can be sent to [gftawards@gmail.com](mailto:gftawards@gmail.com) by May 31, 2022.

### **Criteria For Academic Scholarships**

To be eligible to apply for the GFT scholarship, the following criteria must be met: All scholarships are awarded for use in an academic degree-granting program in a college or university accredited by a nationally or regionally recognized accrediting agency, as defined by the United States Department of Education with respect to United States academic institutions, and as defined by the pertinent comparable body for academic institutions outside the United States.

To be considered for an academic scholarship, all applicants must submit a completed application form available online, inclusive of the following documents:

- Transcripts from the applicant's current or most recently attended high school
- Two letters of recommendation from non-family members
- Personal essay of 500 words or less on the subject of: *Describe a time in your life that, or an individual who, has helped shaped you as a person.*
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form

### **Application Guidelines for Academic Scholarships**

The deadline for receipt of applications with all supporting materials is May 31 of each year. All applications and supporting materials for scholarships must be complete before being considered by the scholarship application evaluation committee.

## GFT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read and understood the terms of the GFT Scholarship explained in the current Scholarship Guidelines on the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton website.

I give permission to officials of my high school institution to release transcripts of my academic record and other information requested for consideration in the GFT Scholarship program.

I affirm that all of this application, including the personal essay, is my own work, true, and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please print legibly:**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ MI: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

(Day/Month/Year)

(Check one) I am a:    U.S. citizen    U.S. national    Resident alien expecting citizenship by the date of award

### Scholastic Information

High School(s)

Years Attended

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Cumulative G.P.A: \_\_\_\_\_ on a scale of : \_\_\_\_\_

Honors or special academic awards: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **Selection Process for Academic Scholarships**

All completed applications accompanied by all required supporting materials will be reviewed by the scholarship application evaluation committee to ensure that every applicant receives full consideration.

The committee will assess students based on previous academic performance, financial need, and quality of character as conveyed in the personal essay and letters of recommendation. Applicants will be rated using a point system, with the Gold GFT scholarship recipient being the highest rated and the Silver recipient the second-highest rated.

## **Award Guidelines for Academic Scholarships**

To be eligible for scholarship payment, all applicants must provide written proof of enrollment in the academic program for which the scholarship is sought before the funds are released. Proof of enrollment must be sent directly to the GFT Committee at [gftawards@gmail.com](mailto:gftawards@gmail.com) from the college or university at which the applicant plans to use the scholarship. This generally takes the form of a letter from the registrar's office.

Scholarships are given for each academic year of study, with a maximum of four (4) consecutive years. The academic year for which the scholarship is first provided will be identified in the award.

## **Notice of Academic Scholarship Award**

- Initial notice to scholarship finalists will be sent via email to the address provided on the application.
- The GFT committee will ask for final enrollment verification and educational records release documents. *The scholarship is announced, but not officially awarded, until finalists return the required documents.*
- Final notice of awarded scholarships will be sent to each finalist via email, and postal mail, where possible, after verification is complete.

Scholarship recipients will have eight weeks from the date of notification to submit proof of enrollment. If documentation is not submitted before the deadline, the scholarship offer will be withdrawn. Exceptions to this policy will be considered on a case by case basis if extenuating circumstances are demonstrated.

The scholarship payment will be made by wire transfer (refer to payment forms) and sent on behalf of students who are studying in the U.S. at the university address provided in the application; students studying outside of the U.S. will receive the payment by wire transfer or other accommodations.