



Formerly the League for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and EAR Foundation

MINNIE PEARL SCHOLARSHIP

DESCRIPTION

The Minnie Pearl scholarship is a four-year, undergraduate scholarship open to D/deaf and hard of hearing students who have been accepted to an accredited junior college, college, university, or technical school in the United States. The Minnie Pearl Scholarship will pay up to \$2,500 per year, for four years, for a maximum of \$10,000 per person. Scholarship recipients will receive \$1,000 per fall and spring semester (unless other arrangements are made with the Hearing Bridges) for four years, payable directly to the school, if a 3.0 cumulative grade point average is maintained. Recipients who obtain at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average at the end of each school year are eligible for a \$500 bonus paid directly to the student.

ELIGIBILITY

Each applicant must:

- Be a high school senior with a least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average
- Plan to attend a junior college, college, university, or technical school on a full-time basis (12 hours per quarter or semester)*
- Have significant (severe to profound) bilateral hearing loss
- Be a mainstreamed student
- Be a United States Citizen
- Staff or Board members of Hearing Bridges and their relatives may not apply

TIMELINE

March 12, 2010 – Deadline for postmark of all application materials

March 14 - June 1, 2010 – Review of applications by impartial selection committee.

Selection criteria include academic performance, extracurricular activities, audiology report, essay questions, and letters of recommendation.

June 1, 2010 or earlier– Announcement of 2010 Recipient of the Minnie Pearl Scholarship

APPLICATION CHECK LIST

The application will not be considered if all materials are not received.

- Complete typed or legibly written application
- Typed responses to short-essay questions
- A copy of most recent audiology report, including aided and unaided audiogram for both ears (performed within the last 12 months) and any applicable information concerning cochlear implants, including age of implant
- Certified high school transcript (may be sent separately)**
- Two sealed letters of recommendation from teachers**
- One sealed letter of recommendation from a non-family member**
- Proof of acceptance into an academic or vocational education program (may be turned in separately during review period)
- Recent photo (optional)

* Recipients who discover they are to receive a full tuition scholarship from another organization are no longer eligible for a Minnie Pearl Scholarship.

** Please note that unofficial transcripts and letters of recommendation that are not sealed in envelopes by the writer are not acceptable.

**Application and essay questions may be mailed or emailed to: nr@hearingbridges.org
Transcripts, audiology report, and letters of recommendation must be mailed.**

Minnie Pearl Scholarship Program
Hearing Bridges
415 4th Avenue South, Suite A
Nashville, Tennessee 37201

RESPONSIBILITIES OF RECIPIENT

Minnie Pearl Scholarship recipients must be enrolled on a full-time basis for each fall and spring semester. Recipients are also responsible for submitting to Hearing Bridges the proof of acceptance into an accredited junior college, college, university or technical school, school contact, school address where the tuition payment should be sent, and due date for payment of this tuition.

Payment is made in \$1,000 installments at the beginning of each fall and spring term (unless other arrangements are made with the Hearing Bridges) and sent directly to the college, university, or school. The \$500 bonus will be paid following the spring term, to recipients who have at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average. Recipients **must send their transcript** to Hearing Bridges **following each fall and spring term**. To be considered for the scholarship for the following academic year and the yearly GPA bonus, students must submit their **official transcript** and **progress form** at the end of each spring semester. **If these items are not submitted, recipients will not receive the scholarship for the next academic year.**

If a recipient's transcript shows that he/she does not have at least a 3.0 grade point average, he/she will not receive the tuition payment for the following semester. If after one semester of not receiving the tuition payment, the student's grade point average is a 3.0 or higher, he/she will receive the tuition payment for the following semester. If a student has two consecutive semesters with a grade point average below 3.0, he/she will be removed from the program and will not receive any scholarship funds. If the student's grade point average does reach a 3.0 or higher at a later date, he/she may apply for reinstatement of scholarship funds and must contact Hearing Bridges to do so.

Hearing Bridges, formerly the League for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and EAR Foundation, is a comprehensive community service agency for people who are D/deaf or hard of hearing and for their families. Services include sign language interpreting, transcription, classes in sign language and speech reading, social/recreational services, an interest-free loan program for the purchase of hearing aids and other assistive devices, two college scholarship programs, a youth center with after school and weekend programming, education & advocacy, and information & referral. These services are provided by the main office in Nashville, and two satellite offices in Middle Tennessee.

For more information, contact Hearing Bridges at (615) 248-8828 (V/TTY), (615) 290-5147 (Video Phone), info@hearingbridges.org, or visit www.hearingbridges.org.



Formerly the League for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and EAR Foundation

MINNIE PEARL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION

PLEASE COMPLETE AND MAIL OR EMAIL TO THE ADDRESS ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE. TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY.

Date _____

Full Name _____

Social Security Number _____ Date of Birth: _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone/TTY/Video Phone Number (Please Circle One) (____) _____

Other Phone/TTY/Video Phone Number (Please Circle One) (____) _____

Best Time of Day to Call You _____

Email Address _____

Preferred Method of Communication: Mail ___ Email ___ Phone ___ TTY___ Other _____

Parents'/Guardians' Names

1. _____

2. _____

Parents'/Guardians' Work Phone Numbers

1. (____) _____

2. (____) _____

How Long Have You Experienced Hearing Loss? _____

What is the Cause of Hearing Loss? _____

Degree of Hearing Loss _____

What is Your Primary Means of Communication? Manual _____% Oral _____%

High School Name _____

High School Phone Number (_____) _____

Cumulative Grade Point Average on a 4.0 Scale through First Semester of Senior Year _____

What are your ACT and/or SAT scores?

Anticipated Date of Graduation _____

List of School Activities, Honors, and Awards:

Junior Colleges, Colleges, Universities, Technical Schools Applied To:

Accepted To:

List Your Schools in Order of Preference:

In What Field Would You Like to Obtain a Degree?

How Do You Plan To Pay For Your Education?

Have You Applied for Any Other Scholarships or Grants This Year? Yes/No
If Yes, From Whom and in What Amount? _____

Have you been awarded any other scholarships or grants? _____

How Did You Learn About The Minnie Pearl Scholarship? _____

Please type responses to the following questions on a separate page. Responses should range from 150 to 250 words per question.

1. What does a college education mean to you?
2. What are your goals after graduating from college? How do you plan to achieve those goals?
3. Why are you a good candidate for this scholarship?
4. Describe a difficult situation in your life and how you handled it.

Permission to Release Information

I hereby acknowledge that the above information is true to the best of my knowledge. In addition, I authorize the release of this information to the Hearing Bridges Scholarship committee for the purpose of evaluation and award selection.

Signature (of parent/guardian if under 18 yrs old) _____ Date

***Application must be signed or applicant will be disqualified**