

# D.R.E.A.M.S for Youth Scholarship Program 2019

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.  
**LIVE UNITED**   
United Way of Long Island

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***Determination. Realization. Enrichment. Academics. Mission. Service***

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United Way of Long Island's DREAMS for Youth Scholarship Program provides financial support so Long Island Youth can pursue their dreams and aspirations.

Based on the belief that financial need should not be a barrier to achieving one's potential, the mission of DREAMS is to provide financial assistance in two distinct areas: academic and enrichment. The scholarship program is open to seventh to twelfth grade Long Island Youth who demonstrate financial need and a commitment to community service.

DREAMS is an integral part of United Way's focus on what matters most in our community. In order to achieve positive change in the lives of Long Islanders, United Way of Long Island, together with our community partners, advances the common good by investing in and developing programs that address Long Islanders' critical needs in education, income/financial stability and health. United Way proudly supports over 100 health and human service agencies across Long Island.

With the generous support of the late Ben Pace, founder of the Dreams R Us Foundation, the DREAMS for Youth Scholarship Program was developed in 2001. Since then, more than \$1 million in scholarships have been awarded to more than 300 students.

*"The dreams of our youth are the building blocks for our future. As students realize their dreams, they bring to light a path for the next generation of dreamers to follow. It is my hope that the DREAMS for Youth Scholarship recipients dream big and inspire others to do the same."*

*Meghan Pace,  
Executive Director of the Dreams R Us Foundation*

**Enclosed is information on how to apply for a scholarship, eligibility details, deadlines and an application form.**

## **Academic Scholarship: \$1,000 - \$5,000**

The academic scholarship award assists graduating 12<sup>th</sup> grade students with low to medium income who need financial assistance in order to advance their education. Academic awards are designed to assist with the cost of tuition to vocational schools, colleges or universities, as well as to assist with the cost of books and supplies.

All payments are sent directly to the school.

## **Enrichment Scholarship: \$100 - \$2,500**

Intended for youth who participate in activities that inspire creativity and enhance learning. The enrichment scholarship award helps 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade students with low to medium income who demonstrate financial need to achieve their dreams.

Scholarships can be used for artistic endeavors, specialized summer camps or programs, and more. *College credit courses in High School are not eligible.*

Awards may be used for enrollment fees and/or supplies only. All payments are sent directly to vendors.



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## **Scholarship Criteria**

It is the policy of United Way of Long Island and the DREAMS for Youth Advisory Board to consider all qualified candidates without regard to race, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability. Each applicant is notified of the Board's determination. Funds are distributed directly to the vendor for the enrichment scholarship and to the selected college/university or vocational school for the academic award.

Applicant and parent/guardian signatures indicate that all information contained in the application is complete, factually correct and honestly presented. If any information is found to be false, this may result in the forfeiture of the scholarship award.

Awards are granted at the discretion of the Board and supervised by the United Way of Long Island. It is the responsibility of the scholarship award recipient to submit reports at the end of the activity for which the scholarship was received.

For academic scholarships, grade reports must be submitted at the end of the semester and continued funding for the one-year duration of the scholarship will be contingent upon the applicant receiving a grade of B or better **and** receipt of the grade report and tuition bill.

United Way of Long Island maintains the anonymity of the applicants and does not share personal information, including names, addresses or social security numbers with any outside parties, including the DREAMS for Youth Advisory Board. United Way of Long Island reserves the right to terminate scholarships at any time.

**All scholarships are for one year only.  
Applicants are not eligible for repeat  
scholarships.**

## **Students competing for the DREAMS Scholarship must meet the following criteria:**

Applicants must reside on Long Island and attend a Middle or High School in Nassau or Suffolk County.

**For Academic Scholarships, applicants must be enrolled in 12<sup>th</sup> grade.**

**For Enrichment Scholarships, applicants must be enrolled in 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.**

Applicant must demonstrate financial need for academic and enrichment scholarships.

**Academic Scholarships** require a copy of the FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR) and a copy of the most recent tax return (first 2 pages only) for parents or guardians.

**Enrichment Scholarships** require a copy of the most recent tax return (first 2 pages only) for parents or guardians. These documents must be submitted along with the application.

**Application Deadline:  
Friday, April 19, 2019**

**All materials must be mailed together and  
postmarked by**

**April 19, 2019**

**Late applications will not be accepted**

Applicants will be notified of their status in mid to late June. Checks will be distributed upon receipt of the student's official tuition bill from their respective institution that includes the school name and address and the student's name and student ID number.

## Application Cover Sheet

### 2019 DREAMS FOR YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last four of SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

**Application Checklist:**  
**(To be completed by all Applicants)**

**Application is only considered complete and valid when all items listed are mailed together:**

*Incomplete applications will be denied*

**Have you included?**

This checklist \_\_\_\_\_

The Completed Application Page \_\_\_\_\_

Copy of FAFSA Student Aid report (SAR) *(for Academic Scholarships only)* \_\_\_\_\_

Copy of parent/guardian's most recent 1040 (first 2 pages only) *(for both Academic & Enrichment Scholarships)* \_\_\_\_\_

The dollar amount of the scholarship requested \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Information on other grants/scholarships for which student has applied for/received \_\_\_\_\_

For Enrichment Program – program brochure/flyer & pricing information \_\_\_\_\_

Copy of SAT and/or ACT Scores *(if applicable)* \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Resume \_\_\_\_\_

Student's Essay/Personal Statement \_\_\_\_\_

***\*Specify the DREAMS acronym you are using \* Use 250-500 words \*Tell about yourself \*What makes you stand out? \*Why the financial assistance is needed? \*Proof read for correct spelling and grammar***

***\*Student's Official School Transcript*** \_\_\_\_\_

***\*Two Letters of Recommendation*** \_\_\_\_\_

***\*Note to Guidance Counselors – Please provide transcript & letters to student to be mailed with all other materials - DO NOT SEND SEPARATELY***

**Applicant and Parent/Guardian Disclosure**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ attest that all of the information provided in this application is complete, factually correct and honestly presented. I understand that if any of the information is found to be false, this may result in disqualification or forfeiture of the scholarship award. I understand that it is my responsibility to submit appropriate bills to United Way of Long Island for payment that will be made directly to the appropriate academic institution or vendor.

I understand that my signature below attests to the above, and I agree to adhere to these terms.

*If the applicant is under the age of 18 years old, an additional signature of a parent or guardian is required.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Applicant Signature and date**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent or Guardian Signature and date**

**SEND APPLICATION VIA MAIL POSTMARKED BY FRIDAY, APRIL 19, 2019 TO:**

**DREAMS for Youth Scholarship Program**

**ATTN: Trish Rivers**

**United Way of Long Island**

**819 Grand Boulevard**

**Deer Park, NY 11729**

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## Scholarship Application: Applicant and Parent Data **(Please print clearly)**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
MM / DD / YYYY

Gender: *Male / Female*  
Circle one

Does Family own home: Yes / No  
circle one

Veteran in Household: Yes / No  
circle one

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

Student Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Current School: \_\_\_\_\_ Current Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Guidance Counselor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Scholarship (Circle One) Academic **(For Graduating HS Seniors Only)** Enrichment **(College credit courses in HS not eligible)**

College or Enrichment Program Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
**For Enrichment Programs please include program brochure/flyer and pricing information**

Intended Major for Academic Scholarship Applications (graduating HS Seniors only): \_\_\_\_\_

College/Program Annual Tuition Cost: \_\_\_\_\_ Room/Board Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent(s) or Guardian Information:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Essay/Personal Statement:** In a 250-500 word essay, write a personal statement that describes an event, achievement or experience that has had a strong influence on your life using any one of the DREAMS acronyms: **Determination, Realization, Enrichment, Academics, Mission or Service**, as a focal point. Be sure to talk about yourself in the essay; what makes you stand out; why the financial assistance is needed. Be sure to have someone proof your essay for spelling and grammar.

**Letters of Recommendation:** Please provide two letters of recommendation: one from a teacher or school administrator and the other from a church, community leader or other who can attest to your involvement with community service activities at school, church or in the Long Island Community. Letter must be included with all other materials. Please do not have school mail them under separate cover.