



Scholarship Application

Do you have questions?

Please E-Mail Brad Kuchnicki at theindependentfuneralgroup@gmail.com

Application due date: February 15, 2019

Scholarship 2019

1. DEADLINE for scholarship applications is **February 15, 2019. (NO EXCEPTIONS)**
2. Refer to application process below for a list of the supporting documents needed (i.e., reference forms, evidence of GPA, etc.) Incomplete applications will not be considered.
3. If any question does not apply to you in this application please put N/A in the space.
4. Type or print legibly. Illegible applications will be returned to you.
5. You will be notified by phone or E-mail in June regarding the status of your application.
6. If you have any questions about the application, please call Brad Kuchnicki, Executive Director of The Independent Funeral Group at (865) 405-7085 or by email at theindependentfuneralgroup@gmail.com

PURPOSE The Independent Funeral Group Scholarship was established in 2014. The mission of the scholarship is to provide financial assistance to qualified individuals enrolled in an accredited Funeral Service Degree Program (Certificate Programs are not eligible for Scholarship).

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE is based on financial need, academic performance, leadership potential, and participation in Funeral Service programs including but not limited to volunteer hours. Scholarships are awarded and/or renewed annually provided funds are available.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Independent Funeral Group awards scholarships on the basis of a comprehensive process. Areas that are reviewed by the committee include, but are not limited to the following: Academic Accomplishments, Community Service, References, Personal Essay and Financial Need. The Independent Funeral Group pays scholarship funds directly to the recipient's school. Two \$2500 Scholarships are awarded each June. The Independent Funeral Group Scholarships are awarded without regard to race, color, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation. Scholarships awarded are based upon the availability of funds and additional qualifying criteria.

CRITERIA

- Applicants must have completed one semester in an accredited Funeral Service Degree Program.
- Applicants must be completing or have completed high school successfully with a minimum unweighted GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale. GED applicants are eligible, but are required to submit test scores.
- Applicants must be accepted as a full time student at an accredited Funeral Service College. Applicants must demonstrate a need for financial assistance

CRITERIA Continued.

- Applicants must be a citizen or legal permanent resident of the United States.
- Student must apply for the **2017-2018** Federal Student Aid Application (FAFSA).
- Student must submit a copy of their **2017-2018** Student Aid Report (SAR)
- Applicants must complete and submit a Scholarship Application by **February 15, 2019.**

- The Scholarship recipient's college will receive their check for the next semester **only** after their grades from the previous semester have been received.

TIMELINE

- Applications are due **February 15, 2019**.
- Candidates that are eligible for interviews will be notified by the Scholarship Committee by **April 2019**.
- Applicants are notified if awarded a scholarship immediately upon confirmation by the Scholarship Committee.

Application Process

NEW SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE:

- Completed application form.
- Official high school transcript in a sealed envelope from the institution.
- Two Personal References.
- One Reference from a faculty member at your respective Funeral Service College.
- Demonstrated financial need.
- 500 word written essay

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

- Award notification will be given upon authorization by the Scholarship Committee.
- Applicant must provide their **student ID, the correct mailing address of their institution and the department where their scholarship check is to be received**.
- Award amounts will be distributed each semester after a student's **final grades are received by your accredited Funeral Service College**.
- The scholarship recipient's college will receive their check for the next semester only after their grades from the previous semester have been received. Students must receive a minimum 2.5 grade point average based on a 4.0 scale.

Deadline for the application is **February 15, 2019**. All applications postmarked after this date will not be considered.

Please mail application to:

**The Independent Funeral Group
Attn: Brad Kuchnicki
503 National Drive
Maryville, TN 37804
Office Phone: 865.977.0027
Cell Phone: 865.405.7085
theindependentfuneralgroup@gmail.com**

Application 2019-must be filled out by applicant.

Please type on a separate sheet or print your answers below. If application is illegible it will be returned to you.			
1	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Last Name:</td> <td>First Name:</td> </tr> </table>	Last Name:	First Name:
Last Name:	First Name:		
2	Mailing Address: Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____		
3	Daytime Telephone Number: () Cell Phone Number: () Email address: _____		
4	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>High School:</td> <td>Number of years attended HS:</td> </tr> </table>	High School:	Number of years attended HS:
High School:	Number of years attended HS:		
5	I am attending the following school in the 2019 : _____ Address/ Phone _____		
6	Will you be a commuting student? Will you live on campus? _____ If you are not living on campus, where will you be living? _____		
7	Grade Point Average (GPA): _____ (On a 4.0 scale) Attach proof of GPA; your most recent official school transcript required.		
8	ACT Score: _____ Or SAT Score: _____ A copy of your ACT or SAT score sheet on official high school transcript is required.		

9	Name & address of parent(s) or legal guardian(s): Use reverse side of application if you need more space. Name (s) _____ Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Home phone of parents or legal guardians: _____				
10	List the name of any college you have attended.	Year Began	Year Ended	Year Graduated	Type of Degree Received
	A.				
	B.				
	C.				
11	List expenses you expect to incur per semester or quarter: (Approximate figures acceptable) Make additional comments if needed.				
	A.	Tuition:	Amount: \$		
	B.	Books:	Amount: \$		
	C.	Room & Board:	Amount: \$		
	D.	Other expenses:	Amount: \$		
	E.	Other expenses:	Amount: \$	“	
12	List other financial assistance you will receive per semester or quarter:				
	A.	Personal:	Amount: \$		
	B.	Other Scholarship(s):	Amount: \$		
	C.	Grants:	Amount: \$		
	C.	Student Loan(s):	Amount: \$		
	D.	Other Financial Resources:	Amount: \$		

Please list the following information on a separate sheet if needed.

13	SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Please list school extra-curricular activities in which you have participated. Note leadership roles and dates.
14	Essay Requirement: Please write a 500 word essay on why you have chosen to pursue a career in the funeral industry

15	ORGANIZATIONS: Please list community organizations such as service, volunteer and religious organizations in which you are now active or have previously been active. Note leadership roles and dates.		
16	RECOGNITIONS: Please list important awards and recognitions received. Note organizations presenting honor and date.		
17	GOALS: What are the short and long term goals for your life?		
18	NEED: Please explain your need for The Independent Funeral Group Scholarship		
19	CAREER PLANS: What are your career plans and what would you like to be doing in 10 years?		
20	<p>A. The following items must be attached to this application in order for the application to qualify to be reviewed by the scholarship committee.</p> <p>B. Your application will be returned to you if these items are not attached to this application. (No exceptions.)</p> <p>C. Circle "YES" or "NO" to be sure you have attached each item as required.</p>		
	YES	NO	All Required Reference forms. Your references will mail these to The Independent Funeral Group – Attention Brad Kuchnicki.
	YES	NO	Proof of college acceptance or current student enrollment. A letter of college acceptance or program acceptance is required for receipt of funds.
	YES	NO	Most recent <u>official</u> high school or <u>official</u> college transcript. Photocopies of your transcript are <u>not acceptable</u> .
	YES	NO	Answers to questions 1-20 including essay
	YES	NO	Recent Photo

STATEMENT OF ACCURACY

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me to The Independent Funeral Group Scholarship Committee is true, correct and without forgery. I also consent that my picture may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote The Independent Funeral Group Scholarship Program.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to The Independent Funeral Group's scholarship policy, I must provide evidence of enrollment/registration at the post-secondary institution of my choice before scholarship funds can be awarded.

Signature of scholarship applicant: _____ Date: _____

Witness _____ Date: _____

The deadline for this application to be received by The Independent Funeral Group is February 15, 2019 - No exceptions!