

The Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee for People with Disabilities

Scholarship Application

Dear Educator/Counselor/Agency Personnel,

The Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee for People with Disabilities (BMMCPD) was formed in 1964. We are a volunteer organization comprised of school personnel, vocational rehabilitation, advocacy organizations, non-profit agencies, city personnel, and the private sector. The mission of this committee is to endorse and promote the hiring of people with disabilities, endorse and promote accessibility within our communities, and encourage and coordinate open communication related to the issues of employment of persons with disabilities. The committee currently operates with funds received from the cities of Bismarck and Mandan for their accessibility parking violations.

Through the Scholarship Committee, the Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee solicits and awards scholarships to persons with disabilities pursuing post-secondary education, which also includes vocational training. The committee will be awarding up to five scholarships in the amount of \$1,000.00 to students in the Bismarck-Mandan area this year. Awards are contingent on available funding.

Attached is the Scholarship Application Form to be completed by each applicant. The application must be completed in its entirety and returned **NO LATER** than April 30, 2024, to be considered.

A former applicant **can** re-apply if they are (1) maintaining 12 hours minimum per semester, (2) completing and sending in this application, and (3) explaining to the committee how will reapplying for this scholarship help reach their career/educational goals.

Please email the completed application to bismanmayorscommittee@gmail.com

(title of email: SCHOLARSHIP) or mail to:

Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee for People with Disabilities

c/o Tami Ternes

4501 Coleman Street, Suite 107

Bismarck, N.D. 58503

Recipients will be announced by May 17, 2024.

By submitting this application, you are giving the Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee for People with Disabilities the right to provide your name, your disability, education status, and all other information shared in this application with other committee members.

For questions contact Tami Ternes at 701-551-7070 or bismanmayorscommittee@gmail.com

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Policy Statement

To support students who are planning to attend a college, university, vocational training program, or other post-secondary training organization, the BMMCPD may award scholarships yearly. The amount of each award and the number of awards given will be determined every year by the Mayors' Committee, depending upon available funds.

The Use of Financial Assistance Monies

Many students with disabilities are challenged to meet the high cost of their education-related expenses. Adaptive technology, computers, interpreters, or readers in addition to tuition, books, and housing are all qualifying expenses for this assistance.

Qualifying Criteria to make an application for Financial Assistance

Any student with a qualifying disability who is a graduate of a Bismarck-Mandan area high school, or has obtained their GED, is eligible to apply. Students who are in their final year of high school and submitting post-secondary applications will also be considered.

Requirements to be eligible for the scholarship award are:

- A qualifying disability as defined by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; or the Americans with Disabilities Act will be used as criteria for consideration.
- Applicant must be a United States Citizen.
- Applicants must have been accepted for enrollment to a college, university, trade school, vocational training program, or other post-secondary training as defined by the educational institution; before the scholarship award can be disbursed.
- Applicants will be selected based on the essay, financial need, application content, and academic merit. Letters of recommendation from faculty, employers, or community leaders and extracurricular school activities, community involvement, and examples of leadership are favorable considerations for applicants.

***Financial awards will be mailed directly to the Institution unless otherwise indicated in the award letter. Awards will not be payable to the award winner.**

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Committee Responsibilities:

- Prepare the annual announcement of scholarship applications and distribute them to area high schools, colleges, universities, vocational rehabilitation, and other providers.
- Establish annual deadline dates for applications.
- Review applications and determine eligibility based on the criteria listed.
- Notify the award recipient(s) by mail.

Applicant Responsibilities:

- Applications that include all required documentation in a neat and orderly manner will be given priority consideration.
- Demonstrated commitment to community involvement through your church, volunteering, and helping a neighbor, leadership skills are also a plus when considering applicants.
- Financial needs will also be considered by the selection committee.

Application Checklist:

1. The applicant is a graduate or student of a Bismarck-Mandan School.
2. Documentation of disability is included in the application.
3. High School Transcripts have been sent.
4. Student ID number is included in the application. If you have not received your letter of acceptance, it is your responsibility to provide the selection committee with a copy of this as soon as possible. Funding will not be provided until this is provided.
5. Two letters of recommendation are enclosed. Letters can be from teachers/other school personnel, your employer, pastor, community member; or family friend (excludes family members).
6. Your application clearly states what the funds will be used for.
7. Your essay is enclosed. Your application will not be considered without the essay.

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Application Date: _____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle Initial: _____

Street Address: _____

Mailing Address (if different than stated above): _____

Phone: Home (_____) _____ Cell (_____) _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

US Citizen: ____ YES ____ NO

EDUCATION:

Name of High School _____

Date of graduation or completion: _____

NOTE: A copy of the high school transcript should be included with the application, if still available from the school. If too much time has elapsed to secure this information, please let us know how we can confirm the above information.

Name/Phone number/: _____

I currently hold (check all that apply):

_____ High School Diploma/GED _____ Certificate of Completion

_____ Some College (number of semester hours) _____ Associate Degree _____ Bachelor's Degree

_____ Master's Degree

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Are you currently attending a college or other post-secondary school?

Yes (from where include name and address) _____

No _____

Have you applied for financial aid?

Yes (from where?) _____ No _____

How will this scholarship award be used? (Be specific, examples would include books or tuition, adaptive equipment, or other). The award CANNOT go for both tuition and books.

Describe your education or vocational goal. What type of career do you want?

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Name the post-secondary school or vocational center you plan on attending:

Address of where the check should be sent: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: (____) _____

(Please call the school to confirm where the checks should be sent. Tuition checks are usually sent to Student Account Services, which is a different address from the school.)

Student ID#: _____

(Many colleges have requested we add the ID# to ensure proper credit)

How many credits will you be taking each semester? _____

If you have been accepted, what date will your first class start? _____

(If you have NOT been accepted at this time, it is your responsibility to notify the Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee for People with Disabilities when you are accepted.)

Disclosure of your disability is needed for eligibility purposes OR Documentation of your disability will be accepted.

State any financial need that you may want the Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee for People with Disabilities to consider. _____

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Self-Essay (Required for eligibility)

On a separate sheet, please describe in your own words your personal and educational achievements. Include any involvement in extracurricular school activities, community or volunteer activities, work experience, and examples of leadership. Address your disability, and how has it challenged you or motivated you in your life. What is your goal? Why should the selection committee choose you? Your essay should not exceed more than 500 words. If accommodation is required, essays may be submitted in an alternate format (Braille, diskette, recording tape, etc.).

For former applicants ONLY:

- Need documentation that you are maintaining a minimum of 12 hours per semester.
- Your essay should include "How did the previous funding help you and how will your selection for the second time help you reach your career goal(s)?"

I acknowledge that the enclosed information is true and correct. I understand that failure to be enrolled in the post-secondary school or training program listed in my application will result in forfeiture of this scholarship. I also understand that the Bismarck-Mandan Mayors' Committee for People with Disabilities will verify my enrollment in the school before the issuance of the scholarship award.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Completed scholarship applications with supporting documentation (applicant's guidelines) must be postmarked on or before **April 30, 2024**, to be considered.

Email completed scholarship applications to bismanmayorscommittee@gmail.com

(title of email: SCHOLARSHIP)

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** Priority will be given to Bismarck-Mandan graduates.*