



Dear Graduating Senior,

Congratulations! You are finally a senior in high school looking forward to a bright future. You have completed your college applications and now face the daunting task of financing your college education. The Maine-Endwell chapter of Dollars for Scholars would like to help you. Please fill out the application carefully and completely and submit it to the guidance department before **3:00pm, Thursday, March 19th, 2009**. One week before the due date, members of the Dollars for Scholars Board of Directors will hold an information session during activity period. They would be happy to look at your application and tell you if anything is missing. We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. Listen for the announcement in the middle of March.

We have compiled a list of frequently asked questions that have been asked in the past.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How are scholarships determined? A number of people help to determine scholarship recipients. Both the guidance department at school and the DFS awards committee are involved. Scholarships are determined using a point system. Points are awarded for academic accomplishment using GPA and SAT scores. This information comes from the guidance department. Points are also awarded for extra-curricular activities, sports, work and an essay written by the applicant. The information is organized and a determination is made as to if an award is given and how much money will be awarded. We use a “blind” process. The awards committee does not know the identity of the applicant.

How much are the scholarships worth? Past scholarships ranged from \$150 to \$1000 dollars. The amount awarded is based on points earned by the student. Regrettably, sometimes students don't receive an award because their score is simply too low.

Do I really have to get signatures for all of my school and community activities? YES. You must get signatures and phone numbers for all activities. Activities listed without this information are not counted in your point total.

Can I turn in an application after the deadline? NO. No applications are accepted after the deadline. Many people are involved in the awards process. All efforts are carefully coordinated. It is not possible to include late applications. The best way to avoid this situation is to complete the application (including signatures) as quickly as possible. All applications must be received by **3:00pm, Thursday, March 19th, 2009**.

Do I have to do a good job on the essay? No one really reads them anyway! Seven people will read and score your essay. It is one of the most important parts of the application. We want to know about your future plans. Where will you go to college? What do you want to study? Why are you interested in this field of study? We also have a responsibility to our donors. We take our responsibility very seriously. It is important that our scholarships be used in the best way possible. If you are applying for other scholarships, you will need to write this type of essay on other occasions. Grammar, spelling and typing count!

This scholarship isn't worth that much money. Why should I bother applying? This may not seem like a large amount of money now, but when you are faced with bills for tuition, books, room and board, living expenses or any of the other costs you will incur in college, you will appreciate the scholarship. Some schools provide matching grants. That means that your scholarship would be doubled. If you're still not sure, ask your parents if they think it's worth the effort.

We wish you good luck in your scholarship application process. We hope this information will help you complete our application in the best way possible.

Sincerely,
The Dollars for Scholars
Scholarship Committee