



LAURA K. SHERMAN LAUGHLIN SCHOLARSHIP

Application Form

Applications must be postmarked by February 28, 2012.

Introduction

Laura K. Sherman Laughlin was a beautiful young woman whose accomplishments were many during her 27 years of life. Laura's enthusiastic zest for life, her beauty, her intelligence and her loving spirit brought joy to all who knew and loved her. Tragedy, however, came one morning as Laura traveled to work. She was in a car accident that resulted in severe traumatic brain injury. Following several brain surgeries and a brilliant and hard-fought 19-month personal battle for life, Laura succumbed to her injuries on February 20, 2007.

The Laura K. Sherman Laughlin Scholarship honors the memory of Laura and pays tribute, not only, to her life, but also, to the many lives that she touched in such positive ways. The scholarship opens the doors of opportunity for a student who has brain injury and helps ensure his/her path to success. The scholarship, presented to a student who has sustained a brain injury, at the Special Education Foundation's annual Commitment to Kids Banquet on April 26, 2012, will be used for college tuition at the selected recipient's college/university of choice.

Scholarships are one the most important and rewarding ways the Special Education Foundation fulfills its mission of enriching the education of students who have special needs. Your objective in completing this scholarship application should be to present an accurate overview of yourself so that the Laura K. Sherman Laughlin scholarship committee can assess the likelihood of your success in post-secondary education or other programs.

Requirements

There are a few considerations that are essential. The absence of these elements will disqualify your application or severely affect its evaluation.

- **An essay stating the reasons for the scholarship request must be written by the student.**
- **The application must be complete.** There are four areas of achievement in which we seek information about the applicant: academics, art, athletics and community service. The successful applicant will have entries in at least three of the four areas.
- **The application should be neat and well organized.** Writing should be clear and accurate.
- **Appropriate signatures are required.**
- **The Family's most recent tax return (pages 1& 2 of Form 1040) must be attached.**
- **Each applicant must have two letters of recommendation—one from the student's current teacher. The essay must describe the impact of the disability on the student.**

Laura K. Sherman Laughlin Scholarship Application

1) Name of applicant: _____ Birthdate: _____
Address: _____
Parent's signature: _____
Parent's address (if different from the applicant): _____
Parent email address _____ Student email address _____

2) Indicate the School District program in which applicant is enrolled.
 Vocational/Technical Special Education -Regular Education
Name of school counselor: _____
Name of teacher: _____
Teacher's home phone number: _____ Teacher's voice mail: _____
Teacher's e-mail address: _____
Teacher's signature: _____

Special Education Service:

Itinerant Self-Contained Resource

3) List school(s) attended in the last four years, including the current school.
Date Enrolled School City/State Grade Completed

4) To what school, program would scholarship support be applied?
Name of School /Program _____ City/State: _____
Area of Study _____

5) Provide information that reflects achievement in at least three of the four following areas:
Academics – Provide information that reflects achievement in academic performance (grade point average, class rank, awards, progress toward individual goals, etc.) If applying for school scholarship, attach a copy of your high school transcript. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Arts – Provide information regarding achievements in the visual or performing arts (recognition, grades, awards, etc.). Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Athletics – Provide information regarding athletic achievement (awards, recognition, statistics, individual goals, etc.). Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Community Service – Provide information regarding achievement in community service activities (responsibilities, recognition, awards, letters of reference, if available). Attach additional sheets if necessary.



6) Estimate minimum funds required to attend chosen school in 2011: \$ _____

7) On a separate sheet(s) of paper, state the reasons for needing this scholarship, including the expected benefits from attending the school. Include any information that you feel would help to convince the committee that you deserve and need this scholarship.

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of parent/legal guardian: _____ Date: _____

Applications must be postmarked by February 28, 2012.

Please return

completed form to:

Diane Buhr

Special Education Foundation

10176 Corporate Square Drive Suite 100

St. Louis, MO 63132

Questions?

Diane Buhr dibuhr@aol.com or 314-567-8100