



JSC SCHOLARS JEWISH STUDENT CONNECTION TEEN MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

A very limited number of merit scholarships (up to \$500 each) are available for Chicago-area high school students who are planning to participate in life-changing Jewish experiences that begin anytime between Fall 2023 - Summer 2024. The goals of the scholarship program are for participants to increase their Jewish identity and have a greater commitment to the Chicago Jewish community.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Demonstrate evidence of leadership, range of community service and involvement (either Jewish or secular, or both), and the potential impact of your Jewish teen program.
- School-year based program scholarships are open to applicants in 9th-12th grade, summer program scholarships are open to applicants in 9th-11th grade.
- Attended at least 25% of JSC clubs at their school during the most recent school year. If your school does not have a JSC club, fulfillment of this requirement will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Post-program Expectations:

- Scholarship recipients must continue to attend the JSC club at their school during the following school year, maintaining at least a 25% attendance rate. If there is no JSC club, fulfilling this requirement will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Write a 400-500 word blog post about your experience in the program for the JSC newsletter, website and more.
- With the help of the club's Advisor, create a program to run at the recipient's JSC club on a topic or place they learned about or experienced during their program.
- Meet with JSC mentor twice to discuss fulfillment of the above expectations.
- Following the first meeting with the JSC mentor, serve as an ambassador for Jewish Student Connection at the recipient's school and in the Chicago Jewish community.

Additional Information:

1. Scholarships are awarded by the Scholarship Committee of Jewish Student Connection, a program of the JCC. Final decisions are based on the Committee's assessment of the leadership qualities and commitment to service demonstrated by the applicants.
2. The Scholarship Committee will make the final decisions on the awarding of scholarships. Remember that this is only an application and that no guarantee or promise of receiving a scholarship can be made until the Committee reaches its decision.
3. Please understand that funds for scholarships are limited and that not all of the excellent applicants can receive scholarships.
4. Notifications of merit scholarship awards will be sent VIA EMAIL.
5. Scholarship recipients will receive a check made payable to the Jewish teen program named on the scholarship application. If there is a change of program, please notify JSC office promptly.
6. You may seek additional funding from your teen program, your congregation, the Jewish Federation's scholarship program, or any other sources which may be available to you.
7. The balance of fees due to the program is you and your family's personal responsibility. If you fail to complete the program, you and your family will have to repay any JSC scholarship award to the Jewish Student Connection.
8. You must apply to an approved teen program before you are eligible to apply for a JSC scholarship. You can, however, apply for a scholarship before you have been ACCEPTED to the teen program.
9. You may only receive a merit scholarship once. Applicants who apply for but do not receive a scholarship may reapply.
10. We ask that you provide any other information that you think would be helpful to us in making our evaluation of your application. Remember, however, this scholarship is not based on financial need.



11. You will find the instructions for the scholarship program below. PLEASE BE SURE TO READ THE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY.
12. If you or your family have any questions about the JSC Scholars merit scholarship program, please contact Julie Rubin at 847-763-3639 or jrubin@jccchicago.org.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

The JSC Scholars application process has two parts: an application and a recommendation.

- A. The application.** All materials must be legible and submitted on time. Applications which are incomplete, hard to read, late, or completed by anyone other than the applicant (except for the recommendation form) will not be considered.
 1. The application form and activities sheet. Page one of the application must be signed by both the applicant and a parent or guardian.
 2. A brief essay (one to two pages double spaced) on one of the following topics:
 - i. What Jewish value or tradition do you believe has shaped you the most as a person?
 - ii. What do you think is the most pressing issue facing Jewish teens today? Please note that there are no right or wrong answers, we are simply looking for your insight.
- B. Two recommendations reflecting the range of activities, service involvement and leadership abilities.**
 - The recommendations can be from a teacher, rabbi, activity sponsor, youth group leader, coach, employer, etc.
 - Do not submit recommendations from family, friends or peers.
 - Please give the recommenders the following link to the online recommendation.
 - <https://jcscholars.wufoo.com/forms/jsc-scholars-recommendation-form/>
 - Recommendations must be submitted before an application is reviewed.

Questions? Email jrubin@jccchicago.org or call 847-763-3639.



JSC Scholars

JEWISH STUDENT CONNECTION TEEN MERIT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED ON A ROLLING BASIS

Submit fully completed application materials to jrubin@jccchicago.org

Please type or print legibly in ink.

I. APPLICANT GENERAL INFORMATION

Name (last, first, middle): _____
High School: _____ Grade: _____
Gender: _____ Age: _____ Birthday: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____
Home address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Mailing address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____

II. LIST OF RECOMMENDERS (TWO REQUIRED)

Name: _____ Relation: _____
Name: _____ Relation: _____

III. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Name of program applying for scholarship for: _____
Sponsoring organization: _____
Program term: Summer Semester Year Other (please specify) _____
Date program begins: _____ Date program ends: _____
Full cost of program: _____ Payment due by: _____

ATTESTATION FORM

I attest that this application and the other information submitted are true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge, and that the applicant has completed it by him/herself. I understand that this is only an application for a scholarship and that there is no guarantee of receiving a scholarship. I understand that receipt of a scholarship is contingent upon acceptance to the program to which I have applied and that failure to complete the program will necessitate repayment of the scholarship.

Applicant signature

Date

Parent or guardian (please print)

Parent or guardian (please sign)

Date



JSC Scholars Activities Form

Please list all of your significant activities other than academic work during the last three and current school year (for example: school organizations, jobs, religious groups, the arts, service, athletics, individual interests). If you don't list an activity, we won't know you did it. List all of your significant activities where you think they fit best.

School Activities	Years Participated (circle)	Leadership roles, positions held, honors won, etc...
_____	2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24	_____
_____	20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24	_____
_____	20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24	_____
_____	20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24	_____
_____	20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24	_____
_____	20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24	_____

Jewish Activities	Years Participated (circle)	Leadership roles, positions held, honors won, etc...
_____	2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24	_____
_____	20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24	_____
_____	20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24	_____
_____	20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24	_____
_____	20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24	_____



Hobbies, Interests and Other Activities

Years Participated (circle)

Leadership roles, positions held, honors won, etc...

2020-21 2021-22 2022-23 2023-24

20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24

20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24

20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24

20-21 21-22 22-23 23-24

Honors and Awards

Name of award

Granted by

Activity for which granted

Date/academic year granted

Work Experience

Type of work/position title

Dates of employment

Hours worked during school year

Hours worked during summer

Employer
