

Drivers Education Scholarship Policies

The purpose of the Blue Skies for Children Driver's Education Scholarship Program is to provide an opportunity for up to (5) five students per year to participate in a professionally licensed Drivers Education Program that may otherwise be unaffordable based on income eligibility.

Funding is limited to a maximum of (5) five scholarships per calendar year, with one scholarship round annually. Many applications are received each submission period and there is no guarantee that your scholarship application will be granted. To be eligible for consideration by the Blue Skies for Children Scholarship Committee, an applicant must meet all of the minimum requirements listed below as well as submit all of the required documents.

1. Must meet homeless, low-income or foster eligibility requirements and provide required documentation.
2. Must reside in Whatcom or Skagit County.
3. Must be a student in Whatcom or Skagit County or a home schooled student in a Whatcom or Skagit County School District.
4. Must hold a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better.
5. Must not be enrolled in a driver's education program prior to receiving notification of Scholarship.
6. Must be age 15, 16 or 17 years old at time of Application Submission Deadline.
7. Must have access to a car during driver's training & after, & have a plan as to how you will pay for insurance.
8. Must complete and submit all required forms and attachments listed below:
 - a. Driver's Education Scholarship Application.
 - b. Driver's Education Essay Questionnaire.
 - c. Include a Parent / Guardian letter of recommendation.
 - d. Include a School teacher/staff (or other pre-approved mentor) letter of recommendation.
 - e. Provide a copy of your school transcript showing your minimum cumulative G.P.A. of 2.0 or better.
 - f. Provide copy of Income Eligibility documentation (see below acceptable forms)
 - g. Provide copy of Parent / Guardian identification
 - h. Provide copy of Student's identification. Student ID may be driver's permit, ASB card with picture, SS card, birth certificate or medical coupon.

Application deadlines are as follows – must be received or postmarked by:

Deadline - Thursday, May 16 at 4:00 PM

Accepted Forms of income documentation – Information must be current:

- Current two months of employment pay stubs - or
- Current unemployment insurance pay stubs - or
- If self employed, submit a copy of most recent year's tax return - or
- Current TANF award letter (call DSHS to request copy at 714-4000) - or
- Current Social Security Disability payment award letter - or
- Current OSPI Free / reduced lunch documentation.
- If divorced, provide a current Divorce Decree Child Support Statement showing total income.

Policies:

- Each scholarship will be granted in the amount of \$400.00. Note: If the driver's education course cost is less than \$400.00, the scholarship will not pay in excess of the total course cost. Any cost over and above the \$400.00 is the responsibility of the family.
- Only ONE Scholarship may be granted per student.
- Only ONE child per family may receive a Scholarship in a 24-month period.
- A Scholarship award will count as one Little Wish for that student and their family for that calendar year.
- Application and required documents must be complete and submitted by the deadline for consideration.

Note: NO exceptions will be made for late applicants. Applications received after a deadline may be considered in the next application period upon request, and assuming the child is still eligible under above guidelines.

Submission: Applications can be submitted in person or mailed to:

2505 Cedarwood Ave, Ste. 5, Bellingham, WA 98225



**SUBMIT TO: 2505 Cedarwood Ave, Suite 5
Bellingham, WA 98225**

Drivers Education Scholarship Application

Date of Request: _____
Referred by: _____ DOB: ____/____/____
Student's Name: _____ Age: _____
Student's School _____ G.P.A. _____
Parent / Guardian: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ Cell: _____
City, State, Zip: _____ # in Household: _____
Email: _____

Marital Status: Married Single Divorced Type: Homeless Low-Income Foster
Primary Language: English Russian/Ukraine Spanish Other Foster Case # _____

Driver's Education Provider Requested:

Provider Name: _____ Phone: _____
Provider Address: _____ City: _____
Program Cost: \$ _____ Explain how the balance of fees will be paid? _____

Do you have a car available to you for use once you obtain your license? Yes No
What auto insurance company will you be using? _____
What is the cost for 12 mo of auto ins. for you? \$ _____ per month / year (circle one)
Who will be paying for your auto insurance once licensed? _____

Parent / Guardian Eligibility - We have the following:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Employment Income | \$ _____ (Month / Week) | Unemployment Income | \$ _____ (Month / Week) |
| SSI / SSD | \$ _____ (Month / Week) | Child Support | \$ _____ (Month / Week) |
| TANF Assistance | \$ _____ (Per Month) | Food Stamps | \$ _____ (Month / Week) |
| Medical Coupons | Yes No | Free/Reduced School Lunch | Yes No |

Other Comments: _____

I verify that all information I have submitted is accurate and current to the best of my knowledge as of signing this form. I understand that any falsification of the above information by me can cause loss of eligibility for this scholarship as well as to receive services from Blue Skies for Children.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Student Signature Date



Drivers Education Essay Questionnaire

Please respond to all questions. An incomplete essay will not be considered. Your response should be typed in 11 or 12pt font, in single or double spaced paragraph format, and should not exceed two pages. Each answer should be numbered.

1. Please tell us about yourself – you may include information about your family, your grade level in school, favorite subject(s) and why it is your favorite subject. Include sports and extra-curricular activities, and any clubs you participate in. You may include employment and any other information you would like to share about yourself, what you want to do for your career, college aspirations, etc.
2. Please discuss why you are applying for this scholarship; why you believe you are eligible and merit this scholarship. Explain your need for this scholarship.
3. Please discuss if you will have a car available to you once you receive your license, and how you will support the costs associated with operating a vehicle, including the cost of gas, tabs, insurance.
4. Please discuss how you and/or your family will benefit from you obtaining your license.



Required Applicant Attachments Checklist

Note: This form is for your use only and does not need to be submitted with your application.

- A. Completed & Signed Scholarship Application _____
- B. Essay - Complete answers; answered within format requirements _____
- C. School teacher, counselor, or staff member Letter of Recommendation _____
- D. School GPA Transcript with min. cumulative 2.0 grade point information _____
- E. Copy of applicant's ID (ASB Card with picture or WA State ID card, etc) _____

Parent/Guardian to provide (REQUIRED)

- A. Parent / Guardian Letter of Recommendation _____
- B. Copy of Parent / Guardian CURRENT Income Eligibility documentation _____
- C. Copy of Parent / Guardian ID (Drivers Lic, WA State ID card, etc) _____