

Driver's Education Scholarship

The purpose of the Blue Skies for Children Driver's Education Scholarship Program is to provide an opportunity for students to participate in a professionally licensed Drivers Education Program that may otherwise be unaffordable. Many applications are received annually and there is no guarantee that your scholarship application will be awarded.

To be eligible for consideration by the Blue Skies for Children Scholarship Committee, an applicant must meet all the minimum requirements listed below and submit documentation:

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 or be a homeschool student in Whatcom or Skagit County.
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 applying.
7. Must have access to a car during driver's training & after.
8. Must have car insurance.
9. 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 2 letters of recommendation
 - a. 1st Letter of Recommendation – **Required** by schoolteacher, counselor, or school staff
 - b. 2nd Letter of Recommendation – Can be a parent/guardian, schoolteacher/staff, mentor, or coach
 - d. Provide a copy of your school transcript
 - e. Provide copy of Income Eligibility documentation (see acceptable forms below)
 - f. Provide Parent/Guardian Driver's Education Agreement
 - 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.

To verify eligibility Please submit proof of ONE of the following:

- Employment Income (3 Pay Stubs)
- Unemployment Income
- SSI / SSD Letter
- TANF Assistance Letter
- Food Stamps Letter
- Foster Placement Paperwork or Proof of Guardianship
- Referral: School Liaison, Lydia Place, World Relief, Opportunity Council

Note: We do not need to keep a copy of this, a staff member just needs to verify the documentation

Policies:

- Only (1) Scholarship may be granted per student.
- Each scholarship will be granted in the amount of \$500.00. Note: Any cost over \$500 is family responsibility.
- Funding is limited to a maximum number of scholarships per year.
- An application and required documents must be complete and submitted before consideration.
- Scholarship expires after 3 months of being awarded.



SUBMIT TO:
 1310 Broadway, Suite 2A
 Bellingham, WA 98225
 Enrichment@blueskiesforchildren.org

Required Applicant Attachments Checklist

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

Student to provide (REQUIRED):

- A. Completed & Signed Scholarship Application _____
- B. Essay - Complete answers; answered within format requirements _____
- C. 1st Letter of Recommendation – Required to be completed by a schoolteacher, counselor, or staff member _____
- D. 2nd Letter of Recommendation – Can be a parent/guardian, schoolteacher, school staff, mentor, or coach _____
- E. School GPA Transcript with min. cumulative 2.0 grade point information _____
- F. Show applicant’s ID (ASB Card with picture or WA State ID card, etc.) _____

Parent/Guardian to provide (REQUIRED):

- A. Parent / Guardian Driver’s Education Agreement _____
- B. Show Parent / Guardian CURRENT Income Eligibility documentation _____
- C. Show Parent / Guardian ID (Drivers License, WA State ID card, etc.) _____

Submit Completed Application In-Person or Online:

- **In-Person:** 1310 Broadway, Suite 2A, Bellingham, WA 98225
 - **Office Hours:** Monday – Thursday, 10:00A – 4:00P
- **Online:** Enrichment@Blueskiesforchildren.org



Drivers Education Scholarship Application

Date of Request: _____ Referred by: _____

Student's Name: _____ DOB: ____/____/____

Student's School: _____ G.P.A. _____

Are you currently working with a School Family Liaison? If yes, who? _____

Parent / Guardian: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ 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: _____

Cost of Class: _____ How will the remaining balance of your class 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 auto insurance 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 Foster Placement/Proof of Guardianship Yes No

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 **12pt font, 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. Include sports and extra-curricular activities, and any clubs you participate in. You may include employment, career goals, college aspirations and any other information you would like to share about yourself.
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.



Parent/Guardian Driver's Education Agreement

Please initial each of the following:

1. _____ I take responsibility to get my Student Driver to Driver's Education classes on time.
2. _____ I understand that each driver's education program has a strict attendance policy and will abide by it.
3. _____ I commit to ensuring my Student Driver can complete the 50 hours of supervised driving (10 hours at night) as required by Washington State with a licensed adult at least 21 years of age prior to completing the driver's education course.
4. _____ My Student Driver has access to a car during driver's training and after.
5. _____ I confirm that the vehicle my Student Driver and any Supervisory Driver utilize during and after the Driver's Education course carries the required automobile insurance per Washington State law, including auto liability insurance, AND carries a "permissive use clause".
6. _____ I understand that if awarded, my Student Driver must use their Driver's Education Scholarship within 3 months, or it will expire.
7. _____ I understand that the Driver's Education Scholarship is worth up to \$500.00, expenses exceeded \$500.00 must be covered independent of Blue Skies for Children.
8. _____ I agree to inform Blue Skies for Children immediately if my Student Driver can no longer participate.

As the Parent/Guardian, I hereby commit to this agreement with Blue Skies for Children.

Parent Signature

Blue Skies Authorized Signature

Date

Date



Driver's Education Application Rubric

Scoring Criteria	0 Unsatisfactory	1 Fair	2 Good	3 Outstanding
<p style="text-align: center;">Student Essay:</p> <p><u>Requirements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Typed • 12pt font • Double-spaced paragraphs • 2 pages maximum • Responses numbered 	Applicant does not use required formatting.	Applicant followed some of the required formatting.	Applicant followed most of the required formatting.	Applicant followed all the required formatting.
<p style="text-align: center;">Student Essay:</p> <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 questions addressed 	Applicant does not address the prompt questions. Essay focus is unclear. Sentences lack clarity and mechanical errors are abundant and interfere with understanding. No proofreading.	Applicant addresses some prompt questions but lacks consistent focus. Sentences are unclear and lack variety. Mechanical errors hinder comprehension. Little proofreading.	Applicant addresses all prompt questions with a clear focus, incorporating appropriate details and some elaboration. Sentences are clear, varied, and exhibit minimal errors. Good content.	Applicant thoroughly addresses all prompt questions with focused, detailed, and elaborate responses. Sentences are clear and varied, with minimal mechanical errors. Excellent content.
<p style="text-align: center;">Letters of Recommendation:</p> <p><u>Requirements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 letters of recommendation • 1 letter MUST be from a schoolteacher, school counselor, or other district personnel • 1 letter can be anyone the applicant chooses <p><u>Content</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speak to the student's interest and ability to fulfill the driver's education scholarship program 	Letters of Recommendation do not meet requirements. Letters are vague, lack specific examples, and do not strongly endorse the applicant's abilities. The recommenders may not fully understand the applicant's work.	Letters of Recommendation meet some of the requirements. Letters offer positive remarks about the applicant but lack specific details and concrete examples, suggesting that the recommender's knowledge of the applicant may be limited.	Letters of Recommendation meet most of the requirements. Letters provide strong examples and insights into the applicant's performance, highlighting their relevant skills and qualities. The recommenders exhibit a thorough understanding of the applicant's capabilities.	Letters of Recommendation meet all the requirements. Letters offer detailed examples and anecdotes showcasing the applicant's strengths and abilities. The recommenders demonstrate a deep knowledge of the applicant, providing a strong, enthusiastic endorsement.
<p style="text-align: center;">GPA</p> <p><u>Requirements</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum 2.0 GPA • If minimum GPA is not met, explanation of GPA provided in essay and/or letters of recommendation 	Cumulative GPA does not meet the minimum requirement, and the applicant's essay or letters of recommendation do not provide an explanation for this discrepancy.	Cumulative GPA does not meet the minimum requirement and is not sufficiently addressed in the applicant's essay or letters of recommendation.	Cumulative GPA does not meet the minimum requirement but the applicant's essay and at least one letter of recommendation adequately address any deficiencies.	Cumulative GPA meets the required minimum, or the applicant provides a thorough explanation for not meeting the GPA in their essay, along with at least one recommendation letter.
<p style="text-align: center;">Overall compelling nature of the application</p>	Applicant does not demonstrate a need for the scholarship and does not exhibit a commitment to completing the driver's education program.	Applicant demonstrates limited justification for requiring the scholarship and questionable commitment to completing the driver's education program.	Applicant presents a compelling case for requiring the scholarship, showing a strong commitment to completing the driver's education program.	Applicant shows a strong commitment to completing the driver's education program and has submitted a comprehensive and well-prepared application, indicating significant time and effort invested.
<p style="text-align: center;">Completeness of application</p>	Incomplete application provided.	X	X	Complete application provided.