

Thank you for your interest in The Mark Wandall Foundation's Scholarship Program. We are excited to award scholarships to young adults (age 25 and under) who are residents of the state of Florida and who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling and/or guardian.

The attached application and required documents must be completed and submitted no later than March 31, 2024. Incomplete applications or those missing the required documents detailed below will not be considered. Submit your application and required documents to Scholarship@TheMarkWandallFoundation.org

All applications received will be acknowledged by email. If you do not receive an email acknowledgement, it is the applicant's responsibility to confirm the application has been received prior to the deadline. If you have been selected, you will be notified by telephone and certified mail by May 15, 2024.

You are welcome to apply for a scholarship opportunity with The Mark Wandall Foundation each year (winners can also re-apply), however no applicant will receive award money more than four times.

Please use the below checklist to be sure you have all the required documents prior to your submission.

Good Luck!

- ✓ **Scholarship Application**
- ✓ **Financial Needs Statement**
- ✓ **3 Letters of Recommendation, One of Each:**
 - 1. **Personal Recommendation**
 - 2. **Scholastic Recommendation**
 - 3. **Professional Recommendation (employer, volunteer coordinator, coach, etc.)**
- *** (letters from immediate family members are not accepted)
- ✓ **Copy of High School, College, or Vocational Program Transcript**
- or**
- ✓ **GED Certificate of Completion- Must be accompanied by GED test scores from all sections taken (English, Math, Social Studies, etc.).**
- ✓ **Essay or Video**
- ✓ **PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION IN ONE COMPLETE PDF FILE (not several, 1-page attachments)**

Scholarship Application

Applicant Information

Full Name: _____ Date: _____
Last First Middle

Address: _____
Street Address Apartment/Unit #

City State ZIP Code

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Loss of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date of Loss of Sibling: _____

Are you a citizen of the United States? YES ☐ NO ☐

Have you ever applied for this scholarship? YES ☐ NO ☐ If yes, when? _____

Have you ever been convicted of a felony? YES ☐ NO ☐

If yes, explain: _____

Education

***High School:** _____ Address: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? YES ☐ NO ☐ Diploma: _____

***College:** _____ Address: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? YES ☐ NO ☐ Degree: _____

***Other:** _____ Address: _____

From: _____ To: _____ Did you graduate? YES ☐ NO ☐ Degree: _____

Recommendations

Please list the contact information for the three letters of recommendation you are including with this application:

Full Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Full Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Full Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Extra-Curricular Activities, Volunteer Work & Achievements

Please list any extra-curricular activities, volunteer work, community involvement, leadership roles or awards and/or achievements below:

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Essay

*In an essay in 500 words or less (and in 10-point font) OR in a video submission of 3 minutes or less, please tell us about **the continuing impact the person you have lost has had on your life AND how that impact has resulted in your drive to achieve a college degree or higher education.** Please submit your essay or video with this application.*

Disclaimer

I certify that my answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

If this application leads to a scholarship award, I understand that false or misleading information in my application may result in forfeiture of my scholarship.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

WHAT IS A STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL NEED?

Brief Introduction

First, list any special scholarship need groups to which you may belong. Are you the first in your family to go to college? This is the place to explain that. Are you from a disadvantaged family? Are you from an ethnic group that is under-represented at the school? In this introductory paragraph, you give the financial aid committee a picture of who you are.

Explain How You are Paying for College Now

Let them know you are not ignoring other sources of help. Tell the committee if you are working to help pay college expenses. Detail what steps you have already taken to pay for your education, such as Bright Futures or 529 Savings Plan. This gives the scholarship committee a starting point from which to understand your financial situation.

Explain Difficulties You Are Having in Meeting Your Needs

A Statement of Financial Need should tell the committee why you are seeking aid. This is the place to talk about any changes that have occurred in your life that impact your ability to pay for your education. For instance, there may have been changes in your family's income, unanticipated expenses, or a shortfall in your finances. In this area, you can also provide information to show that you handle funds responsibly. For instance, have you already paid for a semester, or a year, by your own efforts? If you broach this issue though, include only information about education, and not about unrelated things like car loans.

Talk About How You Would Benefit from the Scholarship

This may seem obvious, but it is important for the committee to understand that you intend to make good use of the funding. According to the financial aid page at this might include benefits like being able to concentrate on your studies by not spending so much time working. The funds might also allow you to take an unpaid internship required by your degree. In fact, the scholarship may make the difference between dropping out and finishing your studies. If that is the case, let the committee know.

Close In a Brief and Respectful Tone

Do not beg. Avoid emotionalism. Let your tone be professional and polite. Scholarships and financial aid are privileges, not inherent rights; the opportunities that these funds give students are invaluable. Schools and funding sources have a great responsibility in deciding to whom the awards should go.