



Shasta Head Start Alumni

Scholarship 2023

(in honor of Eva Johnson)

Purpose

Head Start is a federally funded program established over 50 years ago to provide early childhood health and education services to children and families living in poverty. Shasta Head Start has been serving low income families in Shasta, Trinity, and Siskiyou counties since 1965.

Each year Shasta Head Start presents a scholarship to one graduating high school senior who is an alumnus of a Shasta Head Start program and is planning to continue their education in a college, university, or technical school setting. This scholarship was established in memory of Eva Johnson. Eva was a child care provider for many years, a dynamic leader in the Martin Luther King community, and served on Shasta Head Start's Board of Directors. She was a true friend to children everywhere, no matter what their background.

The purpose of the Shasta Head Start Alumni Scholarship is to recognize alumni of our program in academic achievement and school and community involvement. Our goal is to encourage high school seniors to pursue postsecondary education in a public or non-public college, university, or technical school. We award one, \$1,000 scholarship to a high school graduate, graduating from a high school located in either Shasta, Siskiyou, or Trinity county. For the academic year of 2023-2024, the \$1,000 scholarship is being sponsored by the Cornerstone Bank. This is a competitive scholarship.

The scholarship may be used to directly reimburse tuition and other costs and fees associated with postsecondary education. The Shasta Head Start Alumni Scholarship will be distributed directly to the student. Scholarship recipients will be honored at the award ceremony at their high school.

Eligibility

Applicants must be high school graduates that are alumni of Shasta Head Start, who intend to enroll in a postsecondary institution, which may be a public or non-public university, college, or technical school. Applicants must be able to list the year and location of the Shasta Head Start Program they attended as a preschool child.

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated on their application, academic achievement, school and community involvement, references, and written essay.

Applicants will be evaluated on ability to articulate goals in four areas: future educational goals, community service goals, personal life goals, and career goals.

The recipient is required to write a short letter of thanks to the Cornerstone Bank. The donor will enjoy learning more about you and how the scholarship has helped you. The recipient's thank you note should be sent to Shasta Head Start for forwarding to Cornerstone Bank.

Application Process

Each student must:

- 1) Complete a Shasta Head Start Alumni Scholarship application, (download a copy at www.shastaheadstart.org)
- 2) Have a cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale (provide unofficial transcripts showing the first semester grades of senior year)
- 3) Demonstrate an interest in the welfare of children and families in our community by submitting a two-page essay stating:
 - a. Where and when they attended Shasta Head Start as a child, and the memories and benefits they've received from the program
 - b. What their educational and career goals are
 - c. What community service they have performed, including how service has made a meaningful impact in your education (provide agency letter)
 - d. Future community service goals
 - e. What (paid or unpaid) work experience they have had, if any

- 4) Submit two letters of recommendation:
 - a. One from a teacher, counselor, or principal
 - b. One from a community member, family friend, or employer (no family member references will be accepted)
- 5) Provide a current photo. Submission of your photo grants Shasta Head Start permission to include it in any media publicity as appropriate.
- 6) Show proof of application and acceptance to an institute of higher learning. Evidence of enrollment in classes must be provided to Shasta Head Start before award funding will be distributed to the scholarship winner.
- 7) (OPTIONAL) Submit photos of attending SHS, certificates received, or any other artwork pertaining to attending SHS. Please note that this is optional and does not affect the scoring process. Please do not contact Shasta Head Start for proof of your enrollment in our program as we do not keep records from that long ago.

The Scholarship Committee will evaluate and score all eligible scholarship applications based on established criteria. Essays will be scored based on completeness and organization.

If for any reason the scholarship award cannot be used as requested, or if a student drops his or her college courses for any reason, any unused portion of the scholarship award **MUST** be returned directly to The Shasta Head Start Alumni Scholarship. All scholarship awards must be claimed within 120 days of award date or they will be forfeited.

Scoring

The Shasta Head Start Alumni Scholarship application scoring system uses a point system for each of the following criteria: application (10 possible points), academic achievement (20 possible points), school and community involvement (10 possible points), references (10 possible points), and overall written essay (50 possible points), which should include: where and when they attended Shasta Head Start as a child and benefits received from the program, future educational goals, community service performed, future community/society service goals, personal life goals and career goals.

The Scholarship Committee will determine preliminary scores for each of the application criteria and a preliminary overall score for each applicant. The Scholarship Committee will then review all applicant scores and determine a winner.

All decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final.

Deadline for the application is April 12, 2024 by 5:00 pm. Type or print legibly. Illegible applications will not be accepted. Applications postmarked or emailed after this date will not be considered. No incomplete applications will be considered.

Please mail to:

Shasta Head Start Child Development, Inc.
Shasta Head Start Alumni Scholarship
375 Lake Blvd., Ste. 100
Redding, CA 96003

Or email to: a-a@shskids.org

Press releases regarding the scholarship recipients will be sent to appropriate media upon selection of recipients. Recipients will also be listed on the Shasta Head Start Child Development, Inc. website (www.shastaheadstart.org) and our social media pages.