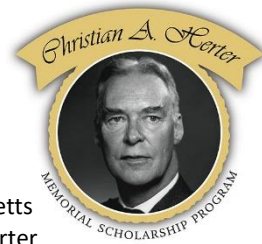


CHRISTIAN A. HERTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

2023 PROGRAM INFORMATION



The Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to Commonwealth of Massachusetts students who demonstrate academic promise and aspirations for higher education. The special role of the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship, as an early identification program, is to recruit high school sophomores and juniors whose socio-economic backgrounds and environmental conditions may inhibit their ability to persevere and attain their educational goals.

Since 1972, the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship has assisted Massachusetts students with their higher education costs. Each year, twenty-five students are selected as Herter Scholarship recipients. Awards are determined annually, based on a student's college Cost of Attendance, demonstrated need, and the level of funding for the program. Scholarships are awarded for a maximum of four years and are subject to annual appropriations from the Massachusetts Legislature.

Who is an eligible applicant for the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship?

- Enrolled in the 10th or 11th grade in a public or private secondary school in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen at the time of application and is a permanent legal resident of Massachusetts
- Has a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- Demonstrates difficult personal circumstances, high financial need, and strong academic promise to continue his or her education beyond high school, at a college or university
- Nominated by a sponsoring school or agency

What criteria are used in evaluating the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship applications?

Applicants are evaluated on the required autobiographical essay describing their future goals and aspirations, as well as the hardships/obstacles they have overcome and their accomplishments in the following areas: Special Skills; Leadership Qualities; Relative Maturity; Personal Difficulties; Motivation; Enthusiasm; Capacity for Growth; Academic Promise; Community Outreach and Involvement.

What restrictions are there on the use of the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship?

Recipients may use the scholarship for college related costs only. Such costs may include tuition, fees, room and board, at an accredited postsecondary institution within the United States. The Herter recipient must commence enrollment in a postsecondary institution immediately upon graduation from high school, or permanently forfeit receipt of such a scholarship. A Herter Scholarship recipient who, due to extreme circumstances, has to postpone college enrollment upon graduating from high school, may apply for a deferment of his/her scholarship for a period of not more than two (2) years.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

All information and documentation are submitted via the online Herter application portal. Students must be nominated **before** they can access the application. The Nominator must complete the [Nominator Request Form](#) to obtain access to the Herter Nominator Portal.

1. **Letter from Nominating School or Agency** – Nominator must submit a letter that describes the nominee's academic background, motivation, and potential for achievement. This statement should also address the nominee's ability to cope with adversity or difficult situations and provide an assessment of his/her eligibility for the Herter Scholarship.
2. **Student (Nominee) Autobiographical Essay** - Each nominee must submit an essay not to exceed two single-spaced pages. The essay will play a significant role in the selection process. The essay should address the following:
 - Leadership Qualities:** Inspiring or directing others; becoming a role model for your peers. Evidence of leadership qualities can be drawn from personal or academic experiences, including extra-curricular activities.
 - Obstacles Overcome/Challenges:** Achieving a goal despite barriers or challenges that has given you the determination to persevere. Include personal difficulties, hardships, medical problems, whether personal or family related that have directly affected your academic life.
 - Achievements:** Special skills and talents, creative or challenging activities that you have accomplished in your personal or academic life, such as artistic talent, public speaking and scientific or mathematical aptitude.
 - Community Outreach:** Volunteer work performed that has benefited others such as the elderly, not for profit groups or agencies, schools, hospitals, or community service agencies.
3. **Most Recent High School Transcript** – copy of student's most recent high school transcript can be submitted by nominator or student.
4. **Letters of Recommendation** - Nominee must be submit a total of two (2) letters of recommendation
5. **Parent/Guardian Supporting Financial Statement** - The information will be used to determine the applicant's eligibility for financial assistance. A copy of parent/guardian's 2022 Federal and State income tax returns must be submitted. If 2022 tax returns have not yet been filed, we will accept a combination of copies of actual 2021 tax returns and copies of 2022 W-2's. If the parent/guardian will not file a 2022 tax return, a signed statement, along with official documentation to support income source (i.e. social security, public assistance, etc.) and amount received. A separate statement to explain any unusual obligations, such as educational expenses or other debts may also be included.
6. **Student Financial Statement** – If applicable, student must submit their 2022 Federal and State income tax returns

2023 Application Deadline: April 28, 2023

For more information on the Herter Scholarship program, contact: Stephannie Barboza, sbarboza@dhe.mass.edu