



MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CHRISTIAN A. HERTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 2025 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? Applicant must:

- Be enrolled in the 10th or 11th grade in a public or private secondary school in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- Physically reside in Massachusetts with an intent to remain in MA consistent with Board of Higher Education policy
- Have approved eligibility status as a "High School Completer,"^[1] per the Massachusetts tuition equity law,^[2] or be a U.S. Citizen, permanent legal resident, or non-citizen eligible under Title IV regulations.
- Have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- Demonstrate difficult personal circumstances, high financial need, and strong academic promise to continue his or her education beyond high school, at a college or university
- Be nominated by a sponsoring school or agency

The 2025 Herter Scholarship Application will open on December 3, 2024. Application Deadline: **February 15, 2025.**

Completed application along with all required documentation must be received by the application deadline. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**

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*. Applicants must also demonstrate *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.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Application information and documentation must be submitted by the Nominator, Student (Nominee) and Parent/Guardian.

- **Nominators** must complete the [Nominator Request Form](#) to obtain access to the Herter Nominator Portal.
- **Students** must be nominated in order to access the portal and online application. Once nominated, student will receive an email with information to create their account and access the online application.
- **Parents/Guardians** will be invited by the student via an email* to create their own account in order to provide household financial information (i.e., 2023/2024 tax information). **Email invite generated once the student provides parent information on their application.*

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.

Questions regarding program requirements and/or application? Contact: Stephannie Barboza, sbarboza@dhe.mass.edu
Website: <https://www.mass.edu/osfa/programs/herter.asp>

^[1] See www.mass.edu/tuitionequity for more details.

^[2] Pursuant to Section 9 of Chapter 15A, as amended by Section 11 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023.