

American Sign Language Honor Society



High School • College • University

2012 National ASL Scholarship

High school seniors planning to major or minor in American Sign Language, Deaf Studies, Deaf Education, or Interpreter Preparation in college are eligible to apply for this scholarship. Applicants must belong to a chapter of the ASL Honor Society on their high school campus to be eligible. Family members of ASLHS-affiliated individuals are prohibited from applying.

ASL Scholarship Application Checklist

To the applicant:

It is your responsibility to complete each of the following requirements by **May 4, 2012**. If any portion is omitted or postmarked after **May 4, 2012**, your application will not be considered.

ASL Scholarship Checklist:

- Part A. Confirm your campus has an active ASLHS chapter
- Part B. Complete the biography, education, and personal accomplishment sections
- Part C. Have your official high school transcripts sent
- Part D. Complete the written essay
- Part E. Complete the ASL essay
- Part F. Have two teachers write letters of recommendation
- Part G. Sign the letter of agreement

Transcripts should be mailed separately by your school counselor or registrar. All other materials in this application, including the USB drive, should be mailed in one packet to:

ASL Honor Society
Attn: Jason E. Zinza
2801 Fait Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21224

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2012 National ASL Scholarship Application, Part A

Before submitting this scholarship application, you must verify that your institution is an active chapter member of the ASL Honor Society.

Step 1: Check the *Chapters* page of the ASLHS website (<http://aslhonorsociety.org/Chapters.html>)

Step 2: Scroll down and find your state and institution.

Step 3: If your institution is listed as **ACTIVE**, then your scholarship application will be processed. If you see **NEEDS TO RENEW** or **DISBANDED**, then your institution is not an active ASLHS member and your application will not be considered.

Note: It is in the applicant's best interest to ensure his / her institution has an active ASLHS chapter long before submitting this scholarship application.

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2012 National ASL Scholarship Application, Part B

Please Print All Information in Black

1. Biography

Applicant's Legal Name

Birth Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

Street Address

Telephone

City, State, Zip

Email

____ - ____ - ____
Social Security Number

____ Yes / No
Are you a CODA? (circle one)

2. Education

Name of High School Currently Attending

School Address

City, State, Zip

Dates Attended

Graduation Date

How Many Years of ASL Courses?

3. College Plans

Name of College / University You Will Attend

School Address

City, State, Zip

Registration / Enrollment Office Telephone Number

Financial Aid Office Fax Number

Month / Year College Courses Begin

I Plan to Study:

_____ **ASL Major**

_____ **ASL Minor**

_____ **Deaf Studies Major**

_____ **Deaf Studies Minor**

_____ **Deaf Education Major**

_____ **Deaf Education Minor**

_____ **Interpreter Preparation / Training**

Academic Year (check one)

___ Semester system

___ Quarter system

___ Other (please explain) _____

Briefly describe your college plans. How do you see ASL being a part of your college education?

4. Personal Accomplishments

Please list any special recognition, honors, or awards you have received during your high school years. Both academic and athletic entries are acceptable. Examples: National Merit Scholar; being featured in a local newspaper, etc.

Please describe any community service or volunteer activities you've been involved with. For each, explain the type of service and how long it lasted. Examples: Hospice care (2 years); library service (6 months), etc.

Please describe your involvement in school related activities. Examples: School government; newspaper, etc.

Please explain your work experience, including the number of hours worked per week. If you have not held a job during high school, please write "none."

Please describe your involvement in Deaf community events and / or organizations, and how you have used your ASL skills outside of class. Examples: Competing in the ASL Literature competition; attending an ASL film festival, etc.

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2012 National ASL Scholarship Application, Part C

REQUEST FOR OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

To the student: Your application for the National ASL Scholarship will not be reviewed without a copy of your official high school transcript. It is your responsibility to request transcripts be sent on or before the application deadline. Keep in mind your school may need 1-3 weeks to process a transcript. Give this sheet to your school's registrar or college counselor.

To the registrar: The student identified below is applying for a scholarship offered by the ASL Honor Society. Please send one official copy of the applicant's complete high school transcripts to the address below. Seal the envelope and sign across the flap. Note: Unofficial transcripts are not acceptable.

Send transcripts to:

ASL Honor Society
Attn: Jason E. Zinza
2801 Fait Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21224

Name of student requesting transcript: _____

Today's date: _____

Date transcripts needed by: **May 4, 2012**

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2012 National ASL Scholarship Application, Part D

Written Essay

Instructions: Please attach your essay as a separate document. You may print a copy and include it with this application, or submit the essay electronically on the same USB thumbnail drive used for your ASL essay. Save the electronic file in a .doc, .txt, or .pdf file format.

Essay Guidelines:

- a. No more than one full page, double spaced.
- b. Essay content should be original and written by you without any outside assistance.
- c. The essay will be judged for organization, content, and creativity.
- d. Give the essay a title.
- e. Make sure your name appears below the essay title.

Essay Topic: How has studying American Sign Language shaped your life and goals, and how will continuing to study ASL in college help you reach those goals?

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2012 National ASL Scholarship Application, Part E

ASL Essay

Instructions: Please submit your ASL essay on a **USB thumbnail drive**. Essays on DVD or VHS will not be accepted. Acceptable digital formats are .mov, .avi, .wmv, DV, RM, DivX, and MPEG 1, 2, or 3. The USB thumbnail drive must be mailed with the application packet.

Essay Guidelines:

- a. The ASL essay should be no longer than 3-4 minutes.
- b. Essay content should be original and signed by you without any outside assistance.
- c. The essay will be judged for organization, content, and creativity.
- d. Ensure the recording is as clear as possible, paying attention to background distractions, selection of attire, and film quality. Beware of submitting blurry videos or being too close or too far from the recording equipment.
- d. Please state your full name at the beginning of the essay.

Essay Topic: Describe why you decided to study American Sign Language. What sparked your interest in ASL?

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2012 National ASL Scholarship Application, Part F

Letters of Recommendation

To the Student: Give this form to two teachers who have had you as a student in an **academic** subject. **One teacher must be a current or former ASL teacher.** Please have the teacher put this form and the letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope with his / her signature over the seal. Include both letters in the scholarship application packet. Be sure to give both teachers adequate time to write the letters of recommendation before the application deadline of **May 4, 2012.**

To the Teacher: The ASL Honor Society considers an applicant's current academic achievement and his / her ability to succeed in higher education. We appreciate candid evaluations of the applicant to help the society select the most qualified candidate.

Please return this form along with any additional letter to the applicant in a **sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.**

Teacher's name _____ Subject taught _____
please print

Signature _____ Date _____
month/day/year

Teacher's phone (____) _____ Teacher's email _____

How long have you known this student, and in what context? _____

What are the first words that come to mind when describing this student? _____

In your letter of recommendation, please write whatever you think is important about this student. What makes him / her exceptional? We are interested in your comments about this student's academic and personal characteristics, in addition to your impressions about the applicant. Additionally, please share any additional information you feel the scholarship committee should know.

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2012 National ASL Scholarship Application, Part G

Letter of Agreement

By signing your name and submitting this scholarship application, you agree to the following stipulations:

- a. The minimum amount of the ASL Scholarship is \$1,000.00.
- b. The scholarship amount will be divided into two equal payments if your college is on the semester system, or into three payments if on the quarter system.
- c. The scholarship checks will be made payable to the college you attend and applied to your student account.
- d. You must enroll for courses each term or the balance of the scholarship will not be mailed to the college.
- e. It is your responsibility to inform the ASL Honor Society if you transfer schools mid-year.
- f. You fully intend to pursue a major or minor in American Sign Language, Deaf Studies, Deaf Education, or Interpreter Preparation.

I, _____, agree to the terms of the ASL Scholarship offered by the ASL Honor Society. I understand the competitive nature of national scholarships and that by submitting this application, I am not guaranteed to win the scholarship. Both essays are my own work and I assume full responsibility for their content.

Signature

Date