

The Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship

GUIDELINES

Description & Purpose

The Good Citizen Scholarship is made possible by two endowments established at the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania. These scholarships are reserved for students who have shown an extraordinary commitment to community service and who have demonstrated creativity in shaping their volunteer activities. The selection committee takes great pleasure in choosing scholarship recipients from among the wonderfully talented, caring students attending our member institutions. Each year the choices are difficult, but the results – empowering students to serve their communities – are well worth the effort.

Amount of Award

In the nine years of the scholarship’s existence, the Association has made 69 awards. Last year we awarded seven scholarships and this year there will be seven (7) \$1,000 each.

Qualifications for the Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship

Each applicant must be a full time undergraduate student with an extraordinary commitment to community service and who has demonstrated creativity in shaping his/her volunteer activities. The student must also attend a school that is a member of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania. (The Association represents 84 private colleges and universities across Pennsylvania.) There is no minimum GPA requirement for this scholarship; GPA will be considered only in the event of a tie.

Selection Process

All applications must be postmarked no later than Tuesday, **April 29th**. Each institution is asked to select **one** application to submit to AICUP for the competition. *(Please do not advise students to send their applications directly to AICUP as they will not be accepted. Please note also that unfortunately we will not be able to accept faxed nomination forms.)* Along with the completed applications, students may submit a copy of their transcript, a letter of recommendation, and any other materials that they feel will be helpful to the committee in making their decision. *All applications must be signed by the student.* Only complete applications will go to the selection committee. The members of the committee will read each application and select the recipients.

Notification

We will notify each recipient by mail in June. Those applicants who were not selected will also receive notification by the end of June. We will send the check to the financial aid office at each recipient’s school by the end of June with instructions to apply the money to the recipient’s account. Recipients should notify the school’s financial aid office immediately if the money is not applied to their account.

The Commonwealth "Good Citizen" Scholarship
Application (Please PRINT or TYPE)

I. General Information

Social Security Number: _____

Mr. Ms. (Please check one)

Name (Last, First, MI): _____

Current Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please use CURRENT PERMANENT address to contact me in late June, early July regarding this scholarship (Including notification of winners)

Current Semester Phone: _____ Summer Phone: _____

Cell phone: _____

Email Address: _____

II. Academic Information

Institution Currently Attending: _____

Major: _____ Minor: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ GPA in major: _____

Expected Date of Graduation: ____/____/____

Please circle one: **Freshman** **Sophomore** **Junior** **Senior**

Release Authorization

I certify that to the best of my knowledge this information is true, complete and accurate. I authorize the release of information to confirm and/or verify this application, and I authorize AICUP to use a quote or sentence from my essay in any AICUP publications (such as a newsletter or donor report), understanding that AICUP will try to notify me of any such use prior to its publication.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Application Deadline is April 29th
(NOTE: Your college/university may have an earlier internal deadline.)

Essay Requirement

Please write a brief essay describing your college experience, and focusing upon the answers to the following:

- 1) What volunteer/extracurricular activities do you participate in, either on or off campus?
- 2) How do your community service activities relate to your major and what leadership roles have you taken on?
- 3) What are your career/academic goals upon graduation?
- 4) How will you remain involved in your community upon graduation?

You may also include any additional information that you feel will be helpful in choosing you as a recipient of the Commonwealth "Good Citizen" Scholarship (i.e. college transcripts or letters of recommendation). Please read the following guidelines to use when writing your essay. These guidelines were created so that the reading of essays can be done as efficiently as possible and failure to follow these guidelines could mean that you will not be considered for the "Good Citizen" Scholarship.

- 1) Limit essay to **two (2) double-spaced** pages.
- 2) You must have 1-inch margins (left, right, top & bottom).
- 3) Use a font that is easily readable and the font must be set no smaller than 11.

Completed applications should be returned to your Financial Aid office. The Financial Aid office will then select one application to submit to AICUP for the competition. If you have any questions please feel free to call Mary Maronic (717) 232-8649, ext. 232 or e-mail maronic@aicup.org. If you would like more information about the Association, you can visit our website at www.aicup.org

GOOD CITIZEN SCHOLARSHIP - FAQ

- Q. *Does the student have to be a US Citizen?*
A. No, the student does not have to be a US Citizen.
- Q. *Can the student be a freshman?*
A. Yes, the student can be a freshman.
- Q. *Can the student be a graduate or first professional student?*
A. No, the student must be an undergraduate student.
- Q. *Can the student be a part-time student or registered for only half the year?*
A. No, the student must be enrolled full-time. A student who will only be registered for part of the year (e.g., one semester) is eligible as long as they will be a full-time student for that semester.
- Q. *Can the scholarship be held while a student is studying abroad for a semester?*
A. Yes, as long as the student remains registered as a full-time student at the institution concerned.
- Q. *When can we expect to receive the scholarship money and to whom on campus is the money sent?*
A. You can expect the money to be forwarded to your Financial Aid Office around the 3rd week of June. Please read the note below carefully.

Please Note

Your financial aid office will receive the scholarship funds in the same check as any other funds received through AICUP for your institution (such as the UPS scholarship, and any corporate or foundation gifts we receive that are designated for your institution). This check is accompanied by a letter outlining how the funds are to be designated.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania

Commonwealth “Good Citizen” Scholarship

- **Who is eligible:** This scholarship is open to all full time undergraduate students attending one of AICUP’s 84 institutions, who has an extraordinary commitment to community service and who has demonstrated creativity in shaping his/her volunteer activities.
- **How to apply:** Application forms are available at the Financial Aid office. Return completed applications to your financial aid office for submission to AICUP. Please note that students should not send applications directly to AICUP- they will not be accepted.
- **Deadline to apply:** All applications must be returned to your Financial Aid office for submission to AICUP. Applications need to be postmarked no later than **April 29th** to be considered for the scholarship.
NOTE: Check with your Financial Aid office for any internal deadlines you must meet.

Please see the Financial Aid office for more details