

2017-2018 WASHINGTON SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Applications for scholarship assistance must be filed annually and funding is limited to 4 academic years as a college undergraduate. There are no age restrictions, but applicants must be residents of the Town of Washington (and have been such for the preceding 24 months) and enrolled --- at least half-time --- in an approved degree or certificate program. Forty-three scholarships with a minimum value of \$1000 were awarded in 2016.

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* IMPORTANT PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES *

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Eligibility for scholarship consideration by the Washington Scholarship Fund requires that applicants carefully follow the procedure outlined below in accordance with deadlines indicated:

1. Fill out the 2017-2018 Free Application for Federal Student Aid ("**FAFSA**"), and **file it as soon after Jan. 1, 2016 as possible, but at least two weeks prior to the application deadline (April 13, 2017)**. For fastest and easiest processing, we suggest you complete and file the FAFSA online from its own website at www.fafsa.ed.gov, or you may download (for mailing) a PDF version of the FAFSA from www.federalstudentaid.ed.gov, or you may request a paper application by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID.

When you receive your Student Aid Report ("**SAR**") -- about 3 weeks after filing a FAFSA *by mail*, or **much sooner if you have filed electronically** -- make a photocopy of all pages of the SAR and **attach it to the 2017 WSF application form**. The **WSF application form** is normally distributed in February to all *Washington-resident* students in the SVHS senior class and to all recipients of WSF scholarship awards for the current academic year who remain eligible for renewal support. Note, however, that it is the **responsibility of the applicant** to obtain WSF application material from the SVHS Guidance Office in a timely fashion.

2. You must be a current applicant for financial aid from the college you will attend, and **a copy of your Financial Aid Package award-notification letter from that college must be included as part of your application for a WSF scholarship**. *If you are returning (or transferring) to a college that cannot provide its students with such a letter before April 13, you still must meet this WSF application deadline date by sending us a copy of the most recent Financial Aid Package notification you have received, presumably applicable to the current academic year. (If you later receive such a letter relating to the 2017-18 academic year and can fax or deliver it to Mr. Dyer by May 1, we will disregard the earlier version.)* Upcoming college freshmen who anticipate a delay beyond April 13 in receiving notification of their Financial Aid Package (from the college they will actually attend) must comply with all other WSF application procedures on or before the deadlines and also must agree to fax or deliver a photocopy of that Financial Aid Package notification to Mr. Dyer's office promptly upon receipt regardless of date.

3. Complete the **WSF application** and **submit it** (together with your complete SAR and photocopy of your most recent Financial Aid Package Award Letter) **no later than Friday April 13, 2017** (earlier is helpful!) **to:**

Mr. Todd Dyer, Shepaug Valley High School, 159 South Street, Washington, CT 06793.

WARNING: If the **SAR** attached to your WSF application is a preliminary version that requires additional information or corrections before your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) can be determined, you must also submit to Mr. Dyer a copy (all pages) of your **"updated" SAR immediately upon your receipt of it**. **FAILURE TO DO SO WILL INVALIDATE YOUR APPLICATION**. The most recent SAR information (**your latest transaction**) can typically be found within the "FAFSA Follow-Up" section of the FAFSA internet website {www.fafsa.ed.gov}; any transmittal of such data should specifically include disclosure of the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) amount. **We prefer to receive the "PDF" version of any Student Aid Report printed from this website.** (Be sure to include copies of **all** pages of your SAR.)

4. If you have not yet been accepted for admission by the college you expect to attend this Fall, please so advise Mr. Dyer when you receive such acceptance. Should you choose not to enroll at the college specified in your WSF application, please submit a revised application including details of the new college's aid package.

Mr. Dyer's office: Telephone (860) 868 - 6218 Fax number (860) 868 - 6261

Applicants are encouraged to retain this announcement in their files, together with a photocopy of their complete WSF application. Blank copies of the application form and the front side of this cover sheet will be posted on the SVHS Guidance Department website at www.region-12.org/shs/