



Guidelines for Financial Aid Application

The Ann Arbor Autism Foundation will attempt to maximize the number of scholarships per quarter in an effort to provide financial assistance to as many qualified applicants as possible based on the financial resources allocated to each scholarship review deadline: February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1.

Ann Arbor Autism Foundation Scholarship Criteria & Procedures:

1. The person who will benefit from the scholarship must live in Washtenaw County.
2. The person who will benefit from the scholarship must have a documented diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder (autism, PDD-NOS, Asperger's, etc.)
3. You must demonstrate financial need by completing and submitting the financial aid application form to:

Ann Arbor Autism Foundation
P.O. Box 130977
Ann Arbor, MI 48113
4. Applications are considered following each of the four scholarship review deadlines: February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1. Emergency applications will be considered on an individual basis at other times.
5. ALL sections of the application must be completed for consideration.
6. Priority will be given to those families in greatest financial need.
7. Priority will be given to applicants who have not received funds from this Foundation within the previous twelve months.
8. In general, no individual scholarship will exceed \$2500 in a funding cycle.
9. Scholarship recipients will be notified and a check will be written directly to the service provider unless an exception is granted for extraordinary circumstances.
10. Upon completing the program or service funded by the scholarship, the recipient and the service provider must provide information about the success of the program or service. A form will be provided with the scholarship check to facilitate this process.
11. The committee which awards scholarships is an independent group of people who cannot benefit in any way from the scholarships.

Ann Arbor Autism Foundation Internal Scholarship Funding Procedures:

The following are the procedures of the Ann Arbor Autism Foundation ("Foundation") in the awarding of scholarships to individuals.

Grants Committee

The grants committee is made up of various volunteer community leaders, including individuals who are not employees or board members of the Foundation. Employees and board members of the Foundation are NOT eligible for scholarships. Members of the grants committee will not derive any private benefit, directly or indirectly, from the selection of applicants for scholarships.

Selection Process for Individual Scholarships

Applicants will be solicited through various organizations with the use of flyers and ads in local newspapers and publications. Selection of scholarship recipients is made by the Foundation on the basis of criteria related to the mission of the Foundation and the individual need of the applicant, and its priority in relation to other demands on Foundation funds. Scholarships are provided without regard to race, color, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, sex or marital status. The grants committee screens all scholarship applications to determine financial need.

Award recipients will be selected per simple majority of the Committee. The Foundation Board of Directors provides a quarterly budget to the Committee from which both scholarship and grant awards are made.

Types of Individual Scholarships currently funded by the Foundation

Scholarships to help fund the cost of educational, recreational, therapeutic and support services for individuals and family members affected by autism spectrum disorder.

Procedure for Exercising Supervision over Individual Scholarships

Scholarship recipients are expected to attend the program or educational institution for which the scholarship was intended. If the Foundation determines that any part of a scholarship has been used for improper purposes, the Foundation will take all reasonable and appropriate steps to recover diverted funds or to insure the restoration of diverted funds. These steps will include legal action if needed.

Application Checklist:

- Completed application form (all sections, 3 pages with any necessary attachments)
- Copy of recent federal income tax return for you and/or your spouse if applicable
- Copy of most recent W-2 for you and/or your spouse if applicable

Questions should be addressed to the Foundation Grants Committee at:

awards@annarborautism.org