

## “BE BIG” SCHOLARSHIP RENEWAL AWARD

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana (BBBSCI) welcomes former “Littles” who graduated from our program within the past four years who are currently enrolled in an accredited college, university, trade school, or other post-secondary educational institution to apply for a renewal award to help with the expense of their post-high school education. Littles must complete the following packet in full and be postmarked by Wednesday, February 28, 2018 to be considered for an award.

### 1. APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Littles must complete and type the “Be Big” Scholarship Renewal Award Application Form.
- Littles must complete and type a 500 word essay about personal accomplishments achieved.
- Littles must complete and type a 500 word essay about their match with their most recent Big.
- Littles must provide a copy of their post-secondary transcript, including grades from the 2016 fall semester.
- Littles are encouraged to include a copy of their current resume.

**Application materials must be mailed in one packet.** Transcripts and letters of recommendation should not be sent separately. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Please fax, mail, or email all completed documents to:  
Nikki Jo McCrady, Program Events & Graduate Specialist  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana  
2960 N Meridian St., Suite 150  
Indianapolis, IN 46208  
[nmccrady@bbbsci.org](mailto:nmccrady@bbbsci.org)  
317.472.3708 (phone)  
317.921.2202 (fax)

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### 2. TIMELINE

January 7, 2019	“Be Big” Scholarship Award packet becomes available for download online. Littles and parent/guardians will be notified via email. Each corresponding “Big” will also be notified via email.
March 1, 2019	Completed application packets are due to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana.
April 8, 2019	Notification of awards to be sent via email.
May 1, 2019	Thank you notes to donor are due to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana from recipient
June 3, 2019	First semester financial award forms are due to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana.
August 2019	Awards to be distributed to bursar of designated post-secondary institution.
December 20, 2019	Second semester financial award forms are due to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana.
January 2020	Awards to be distributed to bursar of designated post-secondary institution.

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### 3. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who funds the “Be Big” Scholarship Program?  
*The money comes from a variety of donors who have designated their money for scholarships.*

2. How much financial assistance can Littles receive?  
*Scholarships Littles can receive range from \$100-\$5,000. Decisions will be made based on need and thoroughness of the application packet.*
3. When is the deadline for submitting applications?  
**Friday, March 1, 2019** is the last day scholarships can be postmarked for mailing. Late applications will **not** be considered.
4. When are letters of recommendation and school transcripts due? Can they be sent separately from my application?  
*All materials must be received in **one packet**. Transcripts and letters of recommendation should not be sent separately. Incomplete applications will not be considered.*
5. Do my letters of recommendation have to be written by teachers, or can they come from anyone?  
*We require any **adult** not related to you who knows you well, such as through school, work or places of worship (i.e., teacher, coach, neighbor, etc.) to write a letter of recommendation for you. Individuals who write recommendation letters **must** identify how they know you, and who they are. Family members and your Big **should not** write your recommendation letter.*
6. What standardized test results are required? How and when do I submit my scores?  
*Your scores are self-reported on the application form.*
7. Are there minimum SAT or ACT scores?  
*No. There are no minimum scores.*
8. My responses are longer than the text boxes allow and do not show correctly when I print. Can I submit my answers on separate sheets of paper using Microsoft word?  
*Yes, as long as you signify which question you are answering with your answer, we will accept them.*
9. Can I apply online?  
*The Be Big Scholarship Award Application is available **for download** on our website, [www.bebigforkids.org](http://www.bebigforkids.org) in the Big Futures section of our Resources page. To type in your information to the application, you must view the document in [Adobe Reader](#) (available free for download). Please download our application, **type** in your information, print, and send in your packet.*
10. Can I fax or email my application?  
*You may fax, mail or email all documents in **one packet** to the attention of:  
Nikki Jo McCrady, Program Events & Graduate Specialist  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana  
2960 N. Meridian Street  
Suite 150  
Indianapolis, IN 46208  
[nmccrady@bbbbsci.org](mailto:nmccrady@bbbbsci.org)  
317.472.3708 (phone)  
317.921.2202 (fax)*

11. I missed the deadline. Can I still apply?

*Applications received with a postmarked date later than **Friday, March 1, 2019** will not be considered.*

12. Is there an income limit?

*No, we will not restrict scholarships awards based on family income.*

13. When are the winners notified? Are applicants who have not won also notified?

*In April, you will receive documentation stating whether or not you received an award.*

14. Which schools can Littles who receive a scholarship attend?

*Littles can attend any post-secondary school, such as:*

- *Vocational schools (students are trained in skills or abilities to be pursued as a career)*
- *Colleges and universities*
- *Academies (educational institution devoted to a particular subject)*
- *Seminary (training of priests, ministers or rabbis)*

## LITTLE APPLICATION FORM FOR "BE BIG" SCHOLARSHIP RENEWAL AWARD

Please type your information before printing.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Big Brother/Sister Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: IN Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s) (with area code): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ High School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Month/Year You Expect To Graduate/Earn HSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Fall 2018 GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ SAT Score: \_\_\_\_\_ ACT Score: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Size: \_\_\_\_\_ Post-Secondary Intended Major or Area of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Scholar? Yes  No  Do you receive free or reduced lunch? Yes  No

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If applicable, please list your employment experience (full or part-time, indicate dates and job titles). You may also include your resume or other summary in supplemental materials.

# TIPS

No matter what you write - be it for school, online or just a letter - it is important to always spell check your work.

If you don't check your work for correct spelling your reader will not take what you've written seriously. As a result, your work may appear *lazy or sloppy*. Additionally, whoever reading your work may become bored or frustrated if they can't understand your words or is struggling with misspelled or misused words. You want to be able to grab the attention of your reader and if they have to struggle to understand the content, *they will be unable to focus on your point*.

In addition to checking your spelling, it is very important to carefully proofread any written document you submit.

Proofreading of written material is the final and essential step that must be taken before a document can be considered complete. When proofreading a document, you should first read it slowly and carefully to determine whether or not it communicates its message and answers the questions that were asked. If the content does not clearly signal the intent or if the paragraphs do not flow naturally, make edits until it does.

To ensure that your work is accurate, readable and professional, do a spell check and a proofread.

# OBJECTIVE OF ESSAYS

The “Be Big” Scholarship Renewal Award essays serve as a way for BBBSCI’s Scholarship Committee to get a better idea of who you as our graduates are from your own viewpoint, and to get a clearer image of how impactful our service was during your time with us. Please do not hesitate to be as descriptive as possible, and go beyond the 500 word minimum.

## ESSAY INFO

Include two approximate 500-word typed essays answering the following questions:

- Match Story (500 words)
  - What did you gain from your participating in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program?
  - What are your most memorable experiences with your former Big? What were your favorite match activities to do together?
  - What difference have you seen in yourself since graduating from the Big Brothers Big Sisters program?
- Personal Accomplishments (500 words)
  - What are you most proud of? Have you overcome any challenges?
  - Tell us about your academic experience thus far. What subject(s) or class(es) do you enjoy most?
  - Please list your post-secondary extracurricular activities, honors, academic memberships, leadership positions and major accomplishments, and list the timeframe in which you participated. What experience(s) or accomplishment(s) has/have been most important to you and why?