

“BE BIG” SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana (BBBSCI) invites “Littles” who are graduating from high school or obtaining an HSED (High School Equivalency Diploma, formerly GED) and have been actively matched with a Big for at least one year prior to the application deadline to apply for a scholarship to help with the expense of their post-high school education. Littles must demonstrate they intend to attend an accredited college, university, trade school, or other post-secondary educational institution for enrollment in the upcoming school year. Littles are required to fulfill ongoing requirements to retain their scholarship or to reapply.

1. APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Littles must complete and type the “Be Big” Scholarship Award Application Packet.
- Littles must provide an official school transcript, including grades from the 2018 fall semester.
- Littles must provide a letter of recommendation from a non-relative adult and who is not your Big.
- Littles are encouraged to include a copy of their 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
317.472.3708 (phone)
317.921.2202 (fax)

2. SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Available scholarships range from \$100-\$5,000 for the 2018-2019 class of graduates. Application does not guarantee an award. Awards will be given in the areas of:

- Academic Achievement
 - Improvement in grades, participation in academic honors/clubs
- Character
 - Your personality, underlying values and personal beliefs
- Leadership
 - Setting an example for your community, leading your peers
- Personal Growth and Overcoming Obstacles
 - Ways you have overcome hardships in your life, how you improve your life for the future

3. 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.

4. 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 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 Communications and Events Specialist
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Indiana
2960 N. Meridian Street
Suite 150
Indianapolis, IN 46208
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 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 21st Century Scholar? Yes No Do you receive free or reduced lunch? Yes No

Parent or Guardian Full Name: _____

Parent or Guardian Phone Number(s): _____ Phone Type: _____

Parent or Guardian Email: _____

TIPS

- Take your time
- Satisfy all the requirements
- Fill out the entire application
- No matter what you write - be it for school, online or just a letter - it is important to always **spell check your work**.
- In addition to checking your spelling, it is very important to **carefully proofread** any written document you submit.
- Write a **minimum of 250 words** per question and a **maximum of 500 words**.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please be as descriptive as possible. A minimum of 250 words must be written for each question and a maximum of 500 words. (250 words=half page single spaced, 500 words=whole page single spaced).

Please refrain from answering each question with same answer/theme. For example: if you've overcome an academic obstacle include that in your Academic Achievement section but NOT your Personal Growth Section. Provide as many experience and details about yourself as possible.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Tell us about your academic experience thus far. What subject(s) or class(es) do you enjoy most? What accomplishments are you most proud of? What academic challenges have you overcome? What are your educational goals and how will they prepare you for the future?

PERSONAL GROWTH

What obstacles have you overcome to get to this point in your life (i.e., a challenge at work, an athletic challenge, a personal tragedy, a personal goal, an ethical dilemma, etc.)? Did these obstacles affect your academic progress?

LEADERSHIP

How have you been involved in the community or the lives of others? What does service to others mean to you? List your extra-curricular activities, honors, academic memberships, leadership positions and major accomplishments. How are these experience(s) or accomplishment(s) helping you being a better leader?

CHARACTER

This is your opportunity to describe yourself to the scholarship committee and help them see you for who you are. What are your two or three strongest character traits (please be specific of the traits) and why? Give examples of each. What have you gained from your match with your Big Brother or Big Sister? How will you use your experience in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program to help others?

INFORMATION REGARDING FUTURE PLANS

Have you submitted your [FAFSA form](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) (www.fafsa.ed.gov) by the Indiana due date, **April 15, 2019**? Yes No
If no, please explain why:

If you are a 21st Century Scholar, have you submitted your [affirmation form](#) by the Indiana due date, **April 15, 2019**?
Yes No Not Applicable

If no, please explain why:

List the post-secondary programs for which you have or intend to apply, the costs (tuition, room and board, etc.) associated with each, and whether or not you have received a financial aid package:

1. School/Program Name: _____
Have you received notification of acceptance? Yes No
Cost of Attendance: _____
Amount of Aid Available: _____ Have you accepted financial aid? Yes No
2. School/Program Name: _____
Have you received notification of acceptance? Yes No
Cost of Attendance: _____
Amount of Aid Available: _____ Have you accepted financial aid? Yes No
3. School/Program Name: _____
Have you received notification of acceptance? Yes No
Cost of Attendance: _____
Amount of Aid Available: _____ Have you accepted financial aid? Yes No

If you have applied for additional scholarships, have you received any awards? Yes No Not Applicable
If yes, please list all you have received:

1. Name of Award: _____
Award Amount: _____
2. Name of Award: _____
Award Amount: _____
3. Name of Award: _____
Award Amount: _____
4. Name of Award: _____
Award Amount: _____