

## 2023 AHEAD in Virginia Disability Student Scholarship Information

AHEAD in Virginia is pleased you are interested in this scholarship opportunity!. We had a very successful application process for 2022 and hope to continue to have high interest at member institutions across the state this year!

- PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY for instructions and information. The majority of students found not eligible for the scholarship last year did not follow instructions and had incomplete applications.
- All required student information submitted at one time with the application, including the transcript and personal statement.
- Institutional verification is completed by any institutional employee recommended by the student.
- Institutional membership is confirmed by the Scholarship Committee Chair.
- Student applicants will receive confirmation of receipt of application.

**NOTE: We suggest you print or save a copy of this document for reference regarding deadlines and other information.**

### General Information and Eligibility

- A. Purpose:** The AHEAD in Virginia Scholarship is provided to acknowledge and support students with disabilities who are striving to earn a degree, overcoming challenges and serving their community.
- B. Eligibility:**
- Enrolled in an accredited Virginia Institution of Higher Education at the time of application
  - Must have a High School Diploma or GED
  - Dual-enrolled/high school students are not eligible
  - Enrolled in a Certificate/Associate, Undergraduate or Graduate degree-seeking program of study
  - Enrolled in at least three (3) credit hours for **both Fall and Spring of the competition year**
  - Minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA (on a 4.0 scale)
  - The student must be formally registered with their college or university disability office. The student is not required to be actively using services during the semester of application for scholarship.
  - The institution where the student is enrolled must have at least one current member of AHEAD in Virginia for the competition year.
  - Students may apply on an annual basis for the category (degree program) in which they are enrolled for that academic year: associate degree or less, undergraduate degree, or graduate degree program.
- C. Criteria for Award:** The Selection Committee will consider the following criteria:
- Personal statement (***all specific information needed is included in the Checksheet linked below***)
    - Formatting
    - Answers to questions are compelling and thorough, demonstrating disability awareness, leadership and community service.

- iii. Readability - correct grammar, spelling and punctuation.
- b. Verification:
  - i. Verification the student is registered with the disability services office
  - ii. Statement of support provided by the individual completing the Institutional Verification form.

**D. Submission Deadlines: *The applicant is responsible for ensuring:***

- a. Application is due for submission no later than **March 20, 2023, 5:00 p.m.** Institutional Verification form due for submission no later than **March 29, 2023, 5:00 p.m**

**E. Notification:** Scholarship applicants will be notified of their award status on or before **April 21, 2023.**

We anticipate awarding the following to students with disabilities attending a Virginia institution:

- a. One (1) \$1000 scholarship to a student enrolled in a program leading to an Associate's Degree or less at any 2-year, community, or technical/vocational college in Virginia.
- b. One (1) \$1000 scholarship to an undergraduate student enrolled in a program leading to a Bachelor's Degree at a **private** college or university in Virginia.
- c. One (1) \$1000 scholarship to an undergraduate student enrolled in a program leading to a Bachelor's Degree at a **public** college or university in Virginia.
- d. One (1) \$1000 scholarship to a graduate student enrolled at any college or university in Virginia.