

# Autism/Neurodiversity/Disability Scholarships, Internships and Other Opportunities - 2024

Contact us at <a href="mailto:lineoutle-consultants.com">lnfo@TopCollegeConsultants.com</a> with any questions

#### **Scholarships - High School and College Students**

**1. Buckfire Law Disability \$1,000 Scholarship (deadline October 1, 2024)** - from the website at Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C. Disability Scholarship Program (buckfirelaw.com):

The Disability Scholarship was established in 2014 as part of the law firm's commitment to helping students with disabilities or injuries who are in need of financial assistance for educational purposes.

The scholarship is available to **students of any age, with any type of disability**, including but not limited to physical disabilities, medical conditions, mental or psychiatric conditions, speech and language, learning disabilities, behavioral conditions, and all other conditions.

The scholarship will award \$1,000 to one student selected by our scholarship selection committee.

#### DISABILITY SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Recipient is a U.S. citizen enrolled at an accredited college or university within the United States
- Has a disability diagnosis from any person qualified to make a diagnosis
- Completed at least one semester of classes at an accredited college or university.

#### DISABILITY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to apply for the Buckfire & Buckfire, P.C. 2024 Disability Scholarship Program an applicant must submit the following items on or before October 1, 2024:

- A completed scholarship application form. (Located at the bottom of page)
- A one-page typed essay describing how you overcame adversity caused by your disability and what you learned from that experience.
- An official or unofficial transcript from an accredited college or university that includes your most recent semester
- Diagnosis documentation of the disability from a person qualified to make a diagnosis.

2. Dr. G. Yvette Pegues Disability Scholarship (\$500) - deadline October 1, 2024. From the website at Dr. G. Yvette Pegues Disability Scholarship | Bold.org: Students with disabilities are often overlooked and do not receive the necessary attention and support to thrive in school. Many grad schools, colleges, and universities lack sufficient resources, such as counselors, trained educators, disability services, and dedicated offices to address the needs of differently-abled students.

Consequently, navigating academic environments can be challenging or even impossible for students with disabilities, causing many to abandon their collegiate aspirations.

This scholarship aims to equip, empower and include students with disabilities, helping them overcome the environmental, social, and financial barriers they face and excel in their pursuit of higher education.

High school seniors, undergraduates, or graduate students with personal or familial disability experiences are encouraged to apply. Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to advocacy and inclusion, as well as contributions to advancing disability rights and justice. Applicants should also have financial need and at least a 3.0 GPA or above.

To apply, please share your neurodiverse experiences navigating life with a disability or disability experience and how you plan to use your education to support underserved communities.

3. Dyslexia/Auditory Processing Disorder Scholarship (\$1,000) - deadline October 31, 2024. From the website at Gemm Learning's College Scholarship Opportunities:

For eight straight years, Gemm Learning has provided an undergraduate scholarship to students with dyslexia and/or auditory processing disorder, attending college/university in the US/Canada.

It takes persistence and character to overcome the challenges presented by dyslexia and/or auditory processing disorder and get into college. And so, the Gemm Learning "Dyslexia/APD" scholarship rewards that persistence. We have been providing a \$1,000 scholarship since 2013. The application process is simple. Send us your story in the form of an essay on the topic "Living With Dyslexia" or "Living With Auditory Processing Disorder". Your essay should be educational and/or inspirational, giving us all a unique insight into what it's like to live with a learning struggle.

In addition to the \$1,000 scholarship, the winning student's essay will be featured on Gemm Learning's blog.

#### **Scholarship Details and Requirements**

There is no formal application to complete. Simply send an email to scholarships@gemmlearning.com with the following:

- Your of 500-650 word essay on "Living With Dyslexia" or "Living With Auditory Processing Disorder" (in Word or PDF format)
- Proof of college enrollment. Please note: students deferring are not eligible. Acceptable
  proof of enrollment: You may present a dated class schedule or Student ID, receipt for
  tuition payment, or a formal letter from your school stating that you are enrolled for the
  fall semester. The full name of your University or College must be visible. An acceptance
  letter is not proof of enrollment.
- By submitting an essay and proof of enrollment, you give Gemm Learning permission to publish your essay and your full name on our website and/or blog.
- Essays submitted without a name on them will not be considered.

We will begin accepting applications for the 2024 Dyslexia/APD scholarship on **September 1**, **2024**. All essays and proof of enrollment must be submitted no later than 11:59 PM EST on October 31, 2024.

From the website at Apply For Our Autism Scholarship – KFM Making A Difference:

All high school students with autism attending a post-secondary program in the 2025-2026 academic year may apply. In addition, all current college students with autism may apply as well who will be attending a post-secondary program in the 2025-2026 academic year. This scholarship has no geographic restrictions meaning it's open to all upcoming and current college students with autism in the U.S and internationally! If you were selected in a previous year and/or weren't selected you may reapply as long as you are still attending college in the 2025-2026 academic year. Just make sure to send us a new original application and essay!

The winning applicant will receive a \$500 dollar scholarship to be used to pay for their post-secondary education.

All scholarship applications need to be filled out with all of the requirements listed below by no later than Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at Midnight EST!

5. The Neurodiversity Scholarship (up to \$2,500/year). Applications open

November 1, 2024 and the deadline is January 15, 2025. From the website at

Scholarships - The ND Alliance:

## **Scholarship Overview**

The Neurodiversity Scholarship is the largest national scholarship program investing directly in neurodivergent students, including those with learning differences such as Dyslexia, ADHD, Processing Disorders, Autism, and other common challenges related to learning.

This initiative represents The Neurodiversity Alliance's ongoing commitment to improving the educational experience and outcomes for students who learn differently, helping them achieve their full potential as they navigate an education system designed for neurotypical students. By breaking down the financial barriers to higher education, we're making it easier for neurodivergent students to attend college, focus on their studies, and graduate successfully.

In addition to the funding, scholarship recipients gain access to The Neurodiversity Alliance's online community and mobile app, along with a variety of leadership opportunities and national events designed to build community, facilitate peer-to-peer support, raise awareness, and engage in advocacy.

### **Awards & Amounts**

There are a total of 25 scholarship awards available for the 2025-2026 academic year. All scholarship awards are a one-year scholarship, with the potential to reapply and renew for up to four years.

Award amounts are determined by the individual student's enrollment status at time of disbursement:

- **\$2,500 Scholarship Awards:** For students enrolled full-time (12 credit hours or more) at a traditional four-year college or university.
- \$1,000 Scholarship Awards: For students enrolled at a community or technical college, or taking part-time classes (less than 12 credit hours) at a traditional four-year college or university.

Scholarships will be disbursed directly to the recipient's college or university and can be utilized for "qualified educational expenses" as defined by the IRS. These expenses include tuition and fees required for enrollment or attendance at the educational institution, or for fees, books, supplies, and equipment required for courses at the educational institution.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

In order to receive The Neurodiversity Scholarship, applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Be between the ages of 18 to 26 years old at any time during the
   2025-2026 academic year.
- Be enrolled, or plan to enroll, full-time or part-time at a not-for-profit college or university within the U.S. during the 2025-26 academic year.
- Identify as neurodivergent, including one or more challenges related to learning such as Dyslexia, ADHD, Processing Disorders, Autism, or similar learning disabilities.

Please note that current staff, board members, and contractors for The Neurodiversity Alliance, and their relatives are not eligible to apply.