



Educational Scholarship Application

The Grinnell Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation Scholarship program was established to assist a graduating high school senior or college student who is a current/former Little Brother or Little Sister seeking college or trade school tuition support. Up to two \$300 scholarships will be awarded to recipients chosen by the Grinnell Big Brothers Big Sisters board.

Any eligible client of Big Brothers Big Sisters must submit an application to the Grinnell High School counselor's office no later than May 11 for the upcoming fall semester.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be a former Little Brother/Sister in the Grinnell mentoring program.
- Must be accepted to any form of continuing education such as a certificate program, trade/tech school, two-year college, or four-year college.
- Must submit an essay of 150 words or more, describing how the Big Brothers Big Sisters program has influenced their life.
- Faculty recommendation is required.

Scholarship Disbursement

Scholarship payments will be made directly to the institution. Payments are to be applied to the student's account to cover billed charges (tuition, fees, room, and board, etc.). Any remaining funds may be released to the student for other educational expenses.

If a GPA of at least 2.0 is achieved after your first semester you are eligible to reapply for another scholarship to help support your continuing education.

Educational Scholarship Questionnaire

This questionnaire is confidential. The information requested is essential for consideration of your application. Incomplete applications will not be accepted for consideration. Attach additional pages if needed.

Section A – Personal Information

1. Student Name (first, middle, last): _____
2. Address (street, city, state, zip): _____
3. Phone (home and/or cell): _____
4. Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY): _____

Section B – Academic Information for High School Applicants

1. Educational institution of accepted enrollment: _____
2. Institution address (street, city, state, zip): _____
3. Proposed subject of study: _____
4. Will you be enrolled full-time? _____
5. Current school or community service activities: _____
6. Organization(s) to which you belong: _____
7. Name of Big Brother/Big Sister: _____

Section B – Academic Information for Continuing Education Applicants

1. Educational institution currently attending: _____
2. Institution address (street, city, state, zip): _____
3. Current subject of study: _____
4. Organization(s) to which you belong: _____
5. Name of Big Brother/Big Sister: _____

Section C – Question and Answer

Please attach a printed page with an answer to the following question and your essay. Samples are provided for you on the following page.

1. What are your future goals and how would a scholarship from Big Brothers Big Sisters assist you in achieving these goals?
2. Please write an essay of 150 words or more describing how the Big Brother Big Sisters program has been influential in your life.

Statement by Applicant

I will notify Big Brothers Big Sisters if my enrollment is interrupted or terminated. The application information submitted is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I fully understand my responsibilities as detailed herein.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return your application, essay, and a signed letter of recommendation by a faculty member to the Grinnell High School counselor's office by Monday, April 30.

If you have questions regarding the application process, please contact Big Brothers Big Sisters at bbbsgrinnell@gmail.com.

Sample Essays for Big Brothers Big Sisters Scholarship Application

Below is a sample answer to the question and a sample essay. Keep in mind this is only one example. Your answer and essay may not be as long or as short. Your goals and experiences are different. The sample is meant only to help you jumpstart your thoughts. A Big Brothers Big Sisters board member will always be available to help you with the scholarship application. Email bbbsgrinnell@gmail.com if you wish to contact a board member.

What are your future goals and how would a scholarship from Big Brothers Big Sisters assist you in achieving these goals?

I have chosen to attend the University of Iowa to major in health and human physiology. Starting this fall, I will begin my journey to achieve a bachelors degree and then eventually a professional degree to become an orthodontist or pediatric dentist. I decided to become an orthodontist or pediatric dentist because I knew that I wanted to do something in the healthcare field. I have always loved science classes and especially anatomy and classes relating to human growth and development. I was adopted from China, when I was 10 months old. Spending my first months of life in China, I did not get the nutrition that I needed, so growing up, my teeth were and have not been the most healthy. Along with the health of my teeth not being very good, I also am missing a few sets of teeth, that just never developed. My mom used to brush my teeth and I brush my teeth religiously, but I still have had multiple baby teeth and mature teeth repaired or pulled. Getting cavities so often, I was in and out of the dentist office a lot, which made me really become interested in what all the terminology meant, and all the tools they used.

I chose the University of Iowa as my post secondary school because it has one of the best graduate schools for the profession that I am seeking. I know that they also, have very exceptional clubs. I plan on joining a club or two, possibly an intramural, and I am hoping to rush for a sorority. I have always had high expectations for myself, so I know I will work hard throughout college and ensure that my grades are at the best that I can make them, but I will likewise, have fun and make the best of my experiences. My ultimate goal is to have my own practice or co-own a practice one day.

By being awarded The Big Brothers Big Sisters Scholarship, my motivation and hopefulness would be increased because it would give me some feeling of relief. \$300 could buy books, food, gas, or anything that I might need for the duration of being away from home. Even a smaller award amount should be helpful, and I would be grateful for anything I was awarded, I am persistent in applying for scholarships whether I have been rejected or not, I keep trying. Finally, I can overcome anything college throws at me, but extra help would be a blessing. I have eight more years of schooling left and anything would help me tremendously, whether it be school costs or personal costs.

How the Big Brothers Big Sisters program influenced my life.

When I was in 4th grade, I was presented with a "big sister", Lian. She was from China, just like me. One way that the program, as well as, Lian, influenced my life, was that she helped me realize that not everyone that is from China, has to be interested or want to take a part in the culture. I saw other adoptees around me celebrating holidays like Chinese New Year, and that made me think I should want to be part of that too. Family and friends would also ask me if I wanted to go back to visit China, and I think I felt like I had to say yes. It took me a few years, but I finally realized, just because I am from China, doesn't mean I have to want to go back or celebrate the culture. I am one of those kids that doesn't care or have any interest in my past culture. I have conformed to the American lifestyle and I wouldn't want it any other way. Now Lian, reassured me that I can be different than the majority, she shared that she does still practice Asian tradition because her family still lives in China.



Heart of Iowa
Big Brothers Big Sisters

Faculty Recommendation Form

Student's Name: _____ Date: _____

Faculty Member's Name and Position: _____

Faculty,

The above student is applying for the Big Brothers Big Sisters scholarship program. Please know that your letter of recommendation is an integral part of the student's application. They will be reviewed carefully. Because you see students daily, you can attest to their growth, their work ethic, their desire to want to go on to either college or some form of training or apprenticeship program. Please know that GPA is NOT a deciding factor for this particular scholarship. Please answer the following questions.

How long have you known the student and in what capacity?

What qualities does this student possess that makes them a good candidate for this scholarship. For example, do they have a good work ethic? Have you seen them progress in positive ways as a student and person?

If you have questions regarding the Big Brother Big Sisters Program, please email bbbsgrinnell@gmail.com. *Thank you for your time!*