



2024 Scholarship Application

OPEN December 1, 2023

10 Initiative Points January 10, 2024

8 Initiative Points January 17, 2024

6 Initiative Points January 24, 2024

4 Initiative Points January 31, 2024

CLOSED February 7, 2024

AWARD Late March 2024



gipsfoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships

- Scholarship Application Link
- Application Tips
- Important Dates
- Scholarship Guidelines

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One application for 180+ scholarships?

The Grand Island Public Schools Foundation uses **one** application for **all** of their scholarships. Complete the forms in the application to the best of your ability. Your answers determine which scholarships you qualify for. The system will automatically filter applications into the appropriate scholarship reviews the student qualifies for.

Each scholarship guideline has unique eligibility requirements. Some guidelines require students to attend a specific college or trade school, and some require a specific major or have GPA requirements. **There are many different combinations of eligibility requirements.** Read the guidelines for more information.

A complete list of scholarship guidelines offered through The GIPS Foundation are listed online at <https://gipsfoundation.org/what-we-do/scholarships/scholarship-guidelines.html>

2023 Scholarship Stats

 **174** scholarships awarded to **100** seniors

 **\$638,158** total scholarships offered

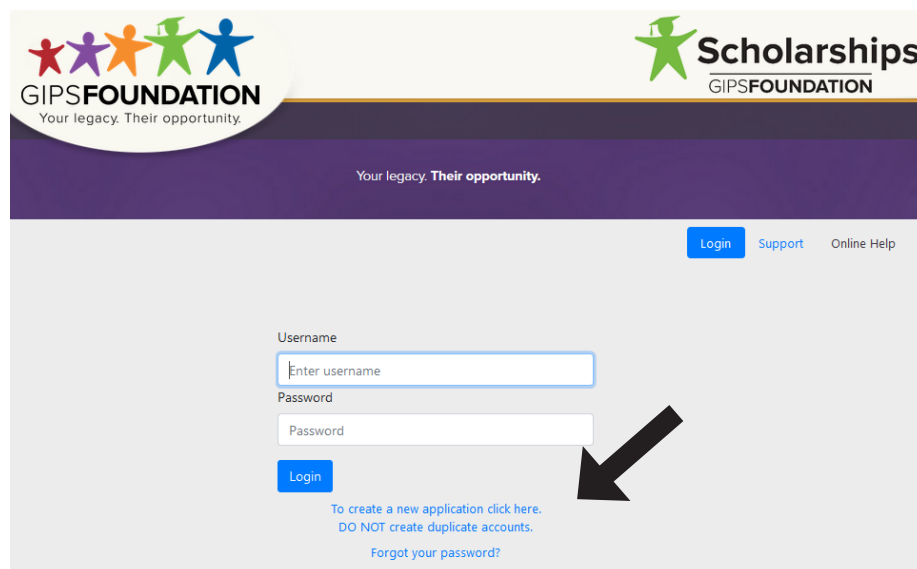
 **25%** of GISH seniors submitted

 **64%** of GISH seniors that submitted were offered scholarships

How do I create an account?

How to get started:

Before you can use the online scholarship application, you must become a registered user. During the registration process, you will choose your own **username** and **password**. If you cannot remember your user name that you have created, please contact the system administrator. **DO NOT create another account.** If you create a duplicate account, the Scholarship Committee reserves the right to disqualify your application.



Create a new account:

At the login screen click:




To create a new application click here.
DO NOT create duplicate accounts.

Write down your Username and Password

You will be presented with a registration screen. Enter your name and email address.

Choose a unique username and a password of at least 5 characters. We recommend using the email address as your username. If a username is not entered, the email address will be used as your username. **Remember that the passwords are case sensitive and fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required.**

What do the icons in my application mean?

-  A **green check mark** indicates that all of the required fields in a form have been completed and saved.
-  A **yellow triangle** indicates that all of the required fields in a form have been completed, but some optional fields are empty. This is only a warning and will not prevent you from submitting your application. **PLEASE NOTE:** You can submit your application with yellow triangles next to a form. Most likely, some forms will always have a yellow triangle. Just review those forms to make sure you have entered all the information you wish to be considered for scholarships.
-  A **red exclamation point** is shown when at least one required field in a form is empty or contains an invalid entry. Your application cannot be submitted while any of its forms are incomplete. If you hover your mouse over the red exclamation point, pop-up text will list the reasons that a form is considered incomplete.

Important questions in the application

There are two important questions in the scholarship application that determine which application pages are available for students to complete. The way the student answers these questions will trigger the appropriate pages.

Contact Information page

Are you graduating from high school in December 2023 or Spring 2024?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Students who will graduate from high school in December 2023 or Spring 2024 **MUST** select “**Yes**”. This will trigger the application pages for high school seniors. These pages contain the necessary questions for all of the GIPS Foundation scholarships available to high school seniors.

If the student selects “**No**” to this question, the application pages for a college student will appear.

Education Information page

Will you receive your high school diploma from Grand Island Senior High?

☒ Yes

☐ No

Students who will receive their diploma from Grand Island Senior High, Ombudsman, or Success Academy **MUST** select “**Yes**”. GISH students DO NOT enter email information for a registrar. This information is embedded in the application process for GISH students only.

Students who **will not** graduate from Grand Island Senior High **MUST** select “**No**”. This will trigger a page requesting email information for a registrar or guidance counselor. An email request will be sent from the application.

How do I upload my Free or Reduced Lunch pdf?

Do you qualify for the free or reduced school lunch program?

☒ Yes

☐ No

If you answer “Yes” to the “Do you qualify for the free or reduced school lunch program?”, you will need to upload a copy of the benefit letter. Some scholarships give preference to students who can prove financial need. Students who receive free or reduced lunch would meet the financial need criteria. If you receive this benefit, it is in your best interest to upload the letter.

If you do not have a copy of the benefit letter and attend Grand Island Senior High, you can email Kari Price at kprice@gips.org and request a pdf copy of the letter to be emailed to you. If you attend any other school you will need to contact your school administration.

Free or Reduced Lunch Benefits

Do you qualify for the free or reduced school lunch program? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Attach verification of Free or Reduced Lunch Benefits.
Attachments must be in a pdf format.

No file chosen

No attachment.

Grand Island Senior High students can email **Kari Price** at kprice@gips.org and ask for a copy of the benefit letter to be emailed to them.
All other students will need to contact their school's administration.

[Click here for directions](#)

Save the pdf copy of your benefit letter to your computer. Then click on the **Choose File** button. Find the saved copy of your benefit letter, select it and click on the **Open** button. Then click on the **save** diskette in the scholarship application. The system will take you to the next page of the application. To check to see if your letter uploaded correctly, click on the **Household Information** page, then click on **View Attachment**. If you have problems uploading your letter you can contact the System Administrator at cwiemers@gips.org.

What references are needed for my application?

Each online scholarship application requires two references.

Consider carefully who you will ask to be your reference. It is important to ask someone first if they will be your reference. If they say yes, ask for their email address. Once you enter their information on the “References and Signature” page, your reference will receive an email with a link to your online application reference form. Once they complete the reference they will not be able to access your application again. The references must be complete before you may submit your application. Monitor closely the progress of your references. It is your responsibility to ensure your references complete the form. The status of your references will be displayed on the “References and Signature” page next to their email address.

Please remember that it is **your responsibility** to verify the email addresses of your references.

Academic Reference

First Name	Last Name	Email Address <small>(Notified)(view)</small>
<input type="text" value="Candi"/>	<input type="text" value="Wiemers"/>	<input type="text" value="cwiemers@gips.org"/>

General Reference

First Name	Last Name	Email Address <small>(Notified)(view)</small>
<input type="text" value="Kari"/>	<input type="text" value="HookerLeap"/>	<input type="text" value="khookerleap@whoops.org"/>

Please continue to check the status of your references.

(Notified) - Indicates the reference has been sent a form link by email.

(FAILED) - Indicates the reference email is incorrect and bounced. You must correct the email address.

(Completed) - Indicates the reference has completed the form and submitted it as complete.

You will NOT be able to submit your application until the references have been completed.

What are the essays?

Personal Essays

On the **Personal Essays** page of the application, the student must complete an essay and answer two additional questions. More information about how to write a great essay can be found on our scholarship website.

Scholarship Essays

Many scholarships require additional information. These questions are found on the **Scholarship Essays** page. Students may want to use the scholarship guidelines link to read more about the scholarships to determine if they should complete the additional questions. These questions are unique to each scholarship and are required for consideration.

Other Essays

Some questions in the application will trigger essays. Most likely, the student qualifies for the scholarship if the essay is triggered. It is in the best interest of the student to complete the essay. On the Extracurricular Activities page there are two additional essay questions. The Leadership and Volunteer essays are used by many reviewers to determine scholarship winners.

Important Note

Most scholarships do not require additional essays other than the Personal Essays.

What are Initiative Points?

Students can earn bonus points for submitting their application before the February 7th deadline. These bonus points are called Initiative Points. Initiative Points will be considered by reviewers when making scholarship award recommendations. While submitting the application early does not guarantee a scholarship, it will certainly help. It is better to submit a quality application than to rush and submit early for points.

GRAND ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

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