



# Online Scholarship Application



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# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## One Application for 212 Scholarships

**\$690,093** scholarship money available

**50** scholarships available for **GISH+** totaling **\$65,725**

Scholarships available for **ALL degrees and majors or trades**

Scholarships available for **ALL colleges and universities (in-state and out-of-state)**





# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## Email

MUST use a **valid email address**

Use an email that you will **check often**

Receive **important scholarship process emails**

Scholarship **offer letters** will be sent to emails





# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

Supporting students in achieving their  
dreams and goals



Application

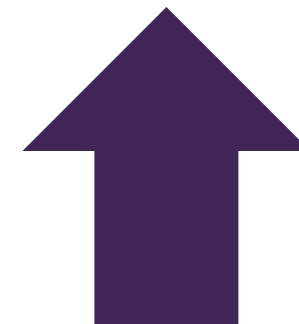
Scholarship Application

Application will open December 1, 2025



Dreaming of your next step after high school,  
but worried about the cost?

Whether you're aiming for a university, a community college, or a trade school, scholarships can help you get there!





# GIPS Foundation Online Scholarship Application

## Important Dates

**December 1, 2025** - Scholarship Application OPEN

**January 14, 2026** - Bob Hamblet Northwestern University Scholarship Application DUE

**February 4, 2026** - Scholarship Application CLOSED

**Late March 2026** - Scholarship awards offered to students

**April 2026** - Scholarship student and donor packets mailed

**April 22, 2026** - GIPS Foundation Scholarship Reception

**April 24, 2026** - Martin Family Scholarship Reception

**July 1 - August 15, 2026** - Claim Scholarship

Initiative Points - Submit by date


- 10 points - January 7
- 8 points - January 14

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Got a question?** You're likely not the only one! Our **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)** section is packed with quick answers to common queries, saving you time and getting you the information you need fast.

Just in case you couldn't find your answer here, **contact us!**

We're always happy to help.

 Questions

### How do I reset my password?

Click the **Forgot your Password?** link on the login screen. Your username is the email address used to create your account. If you still can't access your account, contact the Program Coordinator at [cwiemers@gips.org](mailto:cwiemers@gips.org).

### Important questions in the application

### Why do additional pages appear in my application?

### Free or Reduced Lunch Benefit



# GIPS Foundation Online Scholarship Application

## Scholarship Guidelines

Each scholarship guideline has:

Scholarship background

Amount and Terms

Number of Scholarships

**Eligibility requirements**

Essay question (if applicable)

Terms of payment

Guidelines are found:

GIPS Foundation website

Links embedded in application

## Emilio DeLeon Memorial Scholarship

### Scholarship Essay Required

The family of Emilio DeLeon has established this scholarship as legacy to his life. Emilio was a 2010 graduate of Grand Island Senior High. He was involved in football, wrestling, and ROTC. Emilio was also a positive role model and took many opportunities to mentor those who were younger than himself. During his years in high school, Emilio had to overcome the adversity of a sports injury and subsequent surgeries. This journey helped shape his positive attitude and his subscription to the ideology of "Planted not Buried." The scholarship is intended for students who work hard and need additional support to pursue their education.

### Amount and Terms

- \$800/varies x 1 year

### Number of Scholarships

- 1

### Eligibility

- Must be a graduate of Grand Island Senior High
- A high school GPA of 3.0 or better
- Must be involved in athletics

### Essay Question

- How have you overcome adversity and transformed this experience into positive growth? (Max 500 words)

### To Apply

- Complete the online application form at <https://gipsfoundation.org/programs/scholarships/>

### Deadline

- See scholarship application deadlines at <https://gipsfoundation.org/programs/scholarships/>

### Selection Procedure

- Applications will be reviewed by a scholarship selection committee appointed by the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation.

### Terms of Payment

- The scholarship will be paid through the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation to appropriate educational institution per scholarship eligibility defined above. Scholarships larger than \$500 will be split into equal semester payments.

### Claim Scholarship

- The student must provide proof of enrollment (class schedule) and student ID number to the Grand Island Public Schools Foundation for scholarship distribution. Proof of enrollment is needed for each semester covered by scholarship terms. Send proof of enrollment to Kari Price via email to [kprice@gips.org](mailto:kprice@gips.org), in person at GIPS Administration Building (123 South Webb Road) or via mail to PO Box 4904, Grand Island, NE 68802.

[← Return To List](#)



# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## Did you know?

To quickly search the **Scholarship Guidelines** for specific requirements, eligibility, or keywords:

1. Press **Ctrl + F** (PC/Chromebook) or **Command + F** (Mac).
2. A small search box will appear. Type your term (e.g., "GPA," "Special essay," "engineering") and press Enter.
3. Your browser will highlight all matches on the page!
4. Click on the scholarship name to view all scholarship details.

A

### **ABCDD Girls Softball Scholarship (2)**

Special essay, GISH+, college student eligible, 2.0+ GPA, ABCDD Girls Softball participation requirements

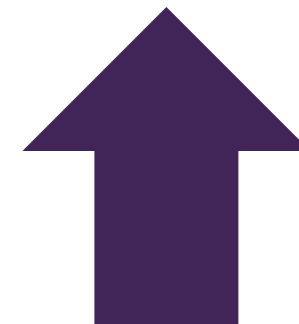
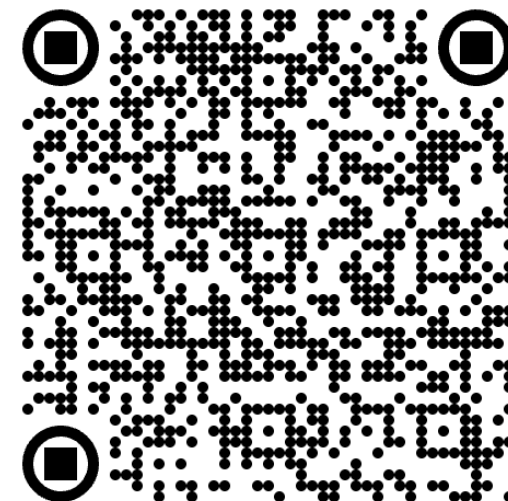
### **Academic Aristocrat General Fund (varies)**

GISH, Summa or Magna Cum Laude

### **Albers Family Scholarship**

GISH, Summa or Magna Cum Laude, involved in school and community activities, leadership preference

### **American Legion Post 53 Scholarship (2)**





# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## How to start?

[www.gipsfoundation.org/programs/scholarships](http://www.gipsfoundation.org/programs/scholarships)



### Online Scholarship Application

[Login](#) [Support](#)

Username

Password

[Forgot your Password?](#)

☐ Remember Me

Login

Create New Account →

Welcome to the **Grand Island Public Schools Foundation** portal

**New Users:** Please click on “*Create New Account*” to complete the registration process and create your logon credentials.

**Existing Users:** Please enter your credentials and log in. If you forgot your password, please use the “Forgot your Password” link to the left to reset your password.

If you need assistance, please fill out the support form by clicking on the “Support” tab to the left.



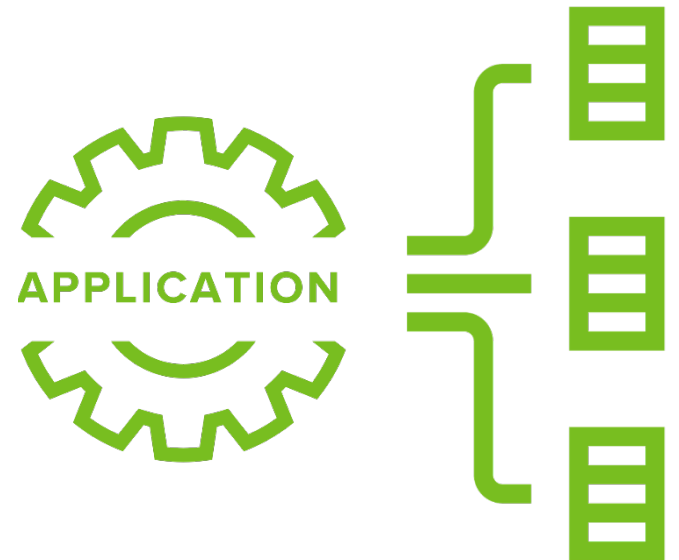


## Each question has a purpose

How you complete your application is very important

**133** scholarship guidelines ➡ **1 application**

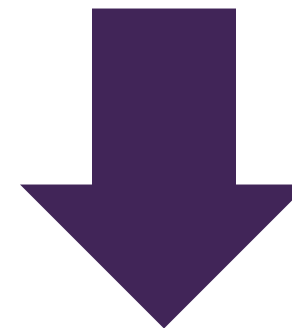
The application system will **filter** student applications into all the scholarship reviews the student qualifies for based on how the student answers questions





## Two Important Questions

### Contact Information



Are you graduating from high school in December 2025 or Spring 2026? ☒ Yes ☐ No

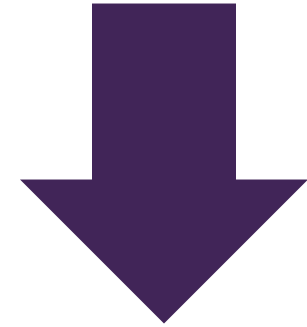
**Yes** to see high school pages

**No** to see college student pages



## Two Important Questions

### Education Information



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



Yes



No

**Yes** for GISH pages

**No** for Non-GISH pages



# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## Education Information

GPA – student self report field



**GISH Registrar** completes **after** application is submitted



**Non-GISH Registrar/Counselor** completes **before** application is submitted

Academy & Pathway (Non-GISH select **I am not enrolled...**)

ACT scores (**no superscores**)



# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

Application ID : 191

Please note: **ALL fields must be completed.**

If you do not know the information needed, enter "unknown" or 0.

## Father

First Name

This field is required

Last Name

This field is required

Employer

(if parent is unemployed, deceased, works at home,  
or whatever your situation may be, please enter)

This field is required

Job Title

I live with my father

☐ Yes ☐ No

This field is required

Graduate of Grand Island Senior High?

☐ Yes ☐ No

This field is required

What is the highest level of education your father achieved?

This field is required

## Mother

First Name

This field is required

Last Name

This field is required

Employer

(if parent is unemployed, deceased, works at home,  
or whatever your situation may be, please enter)

This field is required

Job Title

I live with my mother

☐ Yes ☐ No

This field is required

Graduate of Grand Island Senior High?

☐ Yes ☐ No

This field is required

What is the highest level of education your mother achieved?

This field is required

## Household Info

- If you do not know parent information enter **unknown**
- Or enter whatever your situation may be



# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## Free or Reduced Lunch Benefits

If you answer **Yes** you need to upload your benefit letter

### Free or Reduced Lunch Benefits

#### Note to GISH students:

Use the 2025-26 GIPS Alternate Household Income Benefit letter for your Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility.

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.

None

This field is required

Upload

Grand Island Senior High students can email [Kari Hooker-Leep at khookerleep@gips.org](mailto:khookerleep@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.



# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## College Plans

College preference matters

### College/University

List all colleges you are considering attending.

List colleges according to preference with the first college listed being your first choice.

If you plan to attend a college not in the drop down list, please choose "Other" and enter the college in the next column.

School Name	Other Colleges	Preference	In Nebraska?	Application Status
University of Nebraska - Kearney ▾		1 ▾	✓	Accepted ▾
Hastings College ▾		2 ▾	✓	Accepted ▾
Central Community College - Gra ▾		3 ▾	✓	Accepted ▾



## College Plans

Many scholarships have specific major qualifications

### Major/Minor

What is your anticipated general major?

Education



In addition to your selection above, please enter your anticipated specific major

Music Education PreK-12

What is your anticipated general minor?

Music



In addition to your selection above, please enter your anticipated specific minor

Vocal Music

What degree or certificate are you working towards?

Bachelors





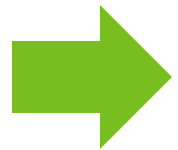


## Extracurricular Activities

School Activities

School-Sponsored Sports

Community Activities/Awards



**Optional Essays – Leadership & Volunteer**

Air Force JROTC and ABCDD Girls Softball





# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## Extracurricular Activities

### Special Pages

GISH Band

Grand Island Concert Association

Grand Island Senior High Theatre Boosters

Grand Island Senior High Visual Fine Arts

Are you participating in a GISH band activity during your senior year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you participated in music or theater in high school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you participated in GISH visual fine arts? ☐ Yes ☐ No





# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## Personal Essay Questions

### Personal Narrative

The best personal statements describe strengths and achievements in an intimate and unique way, capitalizing on life experiences which have molded you into a worth candidate. Let the selection committee know who you are through your writing. (Max 500 words)

### Personal and Career Goals

What are your personal and career goals? What is your plan for achieving these goals? (Max 500 words)

### Financial Plan

Attending college can be expensive. What is your financial plan for achieving this goal? (Max 500 words)

- **Do NOT use your name**
- **Proof your essays for character errors**



# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## Scholarship Essay Questions

Each essay is specific to a scholarship

Most scholarships do NOT have an additional essay

### Nicholas Jay Galvan Memorial Scholarship

#### Eligibility:

- Must be a graduate of Grand Island Senior High
- A high school GPA of 2.5 or better
- Must be involved in athletics or music
- Must demonstrate good character and a desire to work hard

---

Do you want to answer the essay question to be considered for this scholarship? ☐ Yes ☐ No

This field is required



# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## Scholarship Essay Questions

Must select **Yes** if you want to be considered for the scholarship

Select **No** if you don't

### Nicholas Jay Galvan Memorial Scholarship

#### Eligibility:

- Must be a graduate of Grand Island Senior High
- A high school GPA of 2.5 or better
- Must be involved in athletics or music
- Must demonstrate good character and a desire to work hard

Do you want to answer the essay question to be considered for this scholarship? ☒ Yes ☐ No

What adversity have you had to overcome, and how has it transformed you?  
(Max 500 words)



# Scholarship Essay Strategies

Busy filling out college and scholarship applications?

**Need help with essays?**



## Understand guidelines, eligibility and “rules”

Find scholarship guidelines and how they can help you apply for scholarships.  
Determine if you are eligible for a scholarship and what rules might apply to your essay.



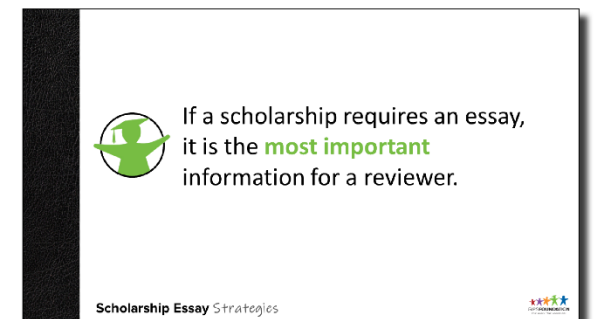
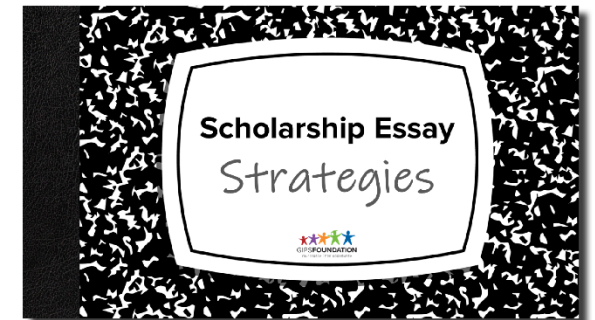
## How to get organized

Manage deadlines, what to save in your scholarship folder and how to draft essays for easy feedback.



## Essay prompt examples

Learn how to create a strategy to answer the prompt. Workshop includes essay examples for group to brainstorm how to make a personal connection to make your essay stand out.





# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## References

Academic and General Reference are **required**

Reference will receive an email with link

Consider carefully who you will ask to be a reference and **ASK THEM** to be a part of the process **BEFORE** you enter their name into the application as they will be notified via email when you save this form.

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

### Academic Reference

First Name

Last Name

Email

Candi

Wiemers

cwiemers@gips.org

Status : The reference has been sent a form link by email.

Academic Reference is not complete

### General Reference

First Name

Last Name

Email

Kari

HookerLeep

khookerleep@gips.org

Status : Completed

Please continue to check the status of your references.

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



# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## What are Initiative Points?

Bonus points for submitting before deadline

- January 7 = 10 points
- January 14 = 8 points
- January 21 = 6 points
- January 28 = 4 points

**February 4 application CLOSED**







# GIPS Foundation Scholarship Application

## Important Application Dates

- December 1, 2025 - Application open
- February 4, 2026 - Application closed
- Late March 2026 - Scholarship offers  
**Complete the digital form IMMEDIATELY**
- Early April 2026 - Alternate offers sent\*  
**If a first scholarship offer is declined, an alternate offer is sent**





**What if you have questions?**



**Links** embedded in the application

**Frequently asked questions** on the Scholarship page: [www.gipsfoundation.org](http://www.gipsfoundation.org)

Contact Candi Wiemers, System Administrator at [cwiemers@gips.org](mailto:cwiemers@gips.org)