



# Tzu Chi Scholars 2020

## Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation

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### \$1,000 NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.

Tzu Chi Scholars is a scholarship program funded by Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation to recognize and provide financial assistance to outstanding college-bound high school graduates. Tzu Chi Scholars are selected on the basis of their financial need, academic achievement, and community involvement. Each Scholar will receive an award of \$1,000. In Chinese, "tzu" means compassion and "chi" means relief. Founded in 1966 by Dharma Master Cheng Yen, the Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation has dedicated itself to the areas of charitable services, medical services, education and environmental protection. Guided by the four basic Buddhist principles of kindness, compassion, joy, and unselfish giving, Tzu Chi strives to ease suffering on earth and to inspire compassion in others by promoting community volunteerism, both locally and internationally. Through sincerity, integrity, trust, and honesty, Tzu Chi volunteers serve all who need assistance, regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion. In addition, Tzu Chi has established bone marrow registries and provides services for international relief. Please visit our website at [www.us.tzuchi.org](http://www.us.tzuchi.org).

#### Eligibility

1. Demonstrates **financial need** for college tuition
2. Is a U.S. high school graduating senior or equivalent
3. Has a minimum 3.0 GPA
4. Will enroll in an accredited U.S. college full-time for the entire academic year 2020-2021

#### Documents Required

1. A completed Tzu Chi Scholarship application form
2. An official high school transcript
3. A copy of one of the three following document(s) demonstrating financial need:
  - a. Family's complete set of 2019 1040 U.S. Income Tax Return including all schedules, or
  - b. Family's complete set of 2018 1040 U.S. Income Tax Return including all schedules and most recent 2019 W-2, or
  - c. Any official documentation which serves as proof of financial hardship
4. Two letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors and/or other advisors
5. A typed autobiography (minimum two pages) that explains why you should be awarded a scholarship. Please include all of the following:
  - Reason for your financial need and application for this educational scholarship
  - Your personal and academic achievements with specific examples
  - Your academic and career plans with specific goals
  - Your past and current involvement, as well as future plans, towards making a difference in your community
6. A one-page short essay about Tzu Chi, based on the information you've gathered from websites, publications, news articles, etc. Please explain what you have learned about Tzu Chi that inspires you in any way. Express your thoughts openly and honestly.

#### Application Process & Award Announcement

1. Please send your application package to the following Tzu Chi Foundation Regional Office:

Tzu Chi Pittsburgh Service Office  
1333 Banksville Road, Suite 201  
Pittsburgh, PA 15216  
*Attn: Tzu Chi Scholars Program*

2. The application form and supporting documents must be postmarked by **March 14, 2020**.
3. A home visit or in person interview is **required** in the application process.

**\* Tzu Chi Scholars will be honored at the Scholarship Award Ceremony at the nearest Tzu Chi Regional Office on May or June, 2020. The \$1,000 award will be directly deposited in the account of the student's college of choice when all forms are completed and processed.**

- \* Only applications which include the complete set of required documents mentioned above will be considered.
- \*\* For scholarship application and information, please visit our website at [www.us.tzuchi.org](http://www.us.tzuchi.org).
- \*\*\* Recipients of the scholarship will be announced by mail on May 14, 2020.



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**Scholarship Application Form** Application postmark deadline: March 14, 2020.

\* Please PRINT clearly

### APPLICANT

Name	Last	First	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Social Security No.
Address			Date of Birth	MM/DD/YY
			Home Phone	( )
			Cell Phone	( )
Parent or Guardian			Student's E-mail	
High School			High School Address	
Counselor			High School Phone Number	
College You Plan to Attend			Planned Major	

GPA	Ethnic Group (Optional)	<input type="checkbox"/> African American, Black <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American (original country _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Asian (country _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic, Latino (country _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Mexican American, Chicano	<input type="checkbox"/> Native American, Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican <input type="checkbox"/> White or Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____
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Extracurricular Activities in HS

Financial Documents Included  1040 U.S. Tax Return  Others \_\_\_\_\_  
 Others

Household Income:  Below \$15,000  \$15,001-\$30,000  \$30,001-\$50,000  above \$50,000

Number of People in Your Household \_\_\_\_\_

### REFERENCES

Name	Relationship	Phone Number	Address

I certify that the information contained in this application is true.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_