

MICHIGAN RETAILERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Philosophy

The Michigan Retailers Association Scholarship Program was established through the Michigan Retailers Foundation to achieve a number of highly desirable objectives. First, it recognizes and aids deserving students who are eligible based on their own or their parents' employment with firms that are members of the Michigan Retailers Association. The scholarships assist the winners and their parents with college expenses. The scholarships also indirectly aid the colleges attended by the scholarship winners. For those Michigan Retailers Association members who wish to award their own scholarships, the scholarship program serves as the vehicle through which that is accomplished.

The philosophy of the Michigan Retailers Association Scholarship Program differs from traditional scholarship programs that reward only the highest level of academic achievement. Michigan Retailers Association scholarships will be awarded to deserving students whose academic credentials fall within an average to above-average range. In general, average and above-average credentials are, for high school seniors, those that rank a student in the top half of their senior class. Standardized test scores should be at least 18 for the ACT Composite, or for the SAT combined Critical Reading and Math scores of at least 850. Students enrolled in college should present college GPAs that range from 2.50 to 4.00 on a 4.00 scale, in addition to having the proper high school credentials. Consideration also is given for extra curricular activities, including, but not limited to, part-time retail employment.

Eligibility

Those eligible to apply are high school seniors and college freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who are:

- Dependent sons and daughters of owners of MRA member businesses, or of full-time employees of Michigan Retailers Association member firms. The parent-employee must have been employed by a Michigan Retailers Association member firm for at least one year as of January 1 of the year the funds are awarded.

OR

- Part-time employees of MRA member businesses who are full-time students. Part-time employees must have been employed by a Michigan Retailers Association member firm for at least six months as of January 1 of the year in which the scholarships are awarded.

If you need to verify Michigan Retailers Association member status, please call Michigan Retailers at 800.366.3699.

Note: The applicants or the parents of applicants must still be employed by a Michigan Retailers Association member firm at the time the winners are selected in April.

Awards

At least 30 scholarships are expected to be awarded annually and are not renewable. Students may reapply each year as long as they continue to meet the eligibility criteria. The award amount is \$1,000 for four-year colleges and universities and \$500 for community colleges. The scholarships will be applied to tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment required for course load. Institutions must be accredited, nonprofit two or four-year colleges/universities in the United States. A student may transfer from one institution to another and retain the award.

Winner Selection

An independent selection committee made up of educators will select the winners during the month of April. In selecting the winners, the committee evaluates the applicants' academic records, test scores and extracurricular activities, including, but not limited to, retail employment. The committee will not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion or national origin. Applicants are ranked largely on the basis of the qualifications described above. All applicants will be notified of the results of the competition in May.

Payment of Funds

Checks will be mailed to each recipient's mailing address and will be made payable to the institution only. Checks will be issued in August and December. Recipient responsibilities include enrolling as full-time undergraduates in the fall of the year in which the scholarships are awarded and continuing in school for the entire academic year without interruption, barring illness, emergency, or military service. Scholarship recipients are responsible for delivering their scholarship checks to the proper office at their institution.

Program Administration

To assure complete impartiality in selection of winners and to maintain a high level of professionalism, the program is administered by International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc. (ISTS), a firm that specializes in managing sponsored scholarship programs.

Checking the Status of the Application:

Allow two weeks after submitting all of the information for processing. Go to aim.applyists.net and login using the email address the applicant provided on the application.

Questions

For additional information regarding the scholarship program contact:

Michigan Retailers Association Scholarship Program

c/o ISTS

1321 Murfreesboro Road, Suite 800

Nashville TN 37217

Email: contactus@applyists.com . When emailing please include the name of the scholarship program or sponsor.



Mail by April 2 to:
Michigan Retailers Association Scholarship Program
 c/o ISTS
 1321 Murfreesboro Road, Suite 800
 Nashville TN 37217

MICHIGAN RETAILERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

All applicants must complete steps 1-3: College Students must also complete step 4.

1. Complete this Application Page and the Activities Page.
2. Obtain and attach a copy of your high school record, which includes at least seven semesters of grades and all standardized test scores. **This does not have to be an official transcript.** If your ACT and/or SAT scores do not appear on your record, attach a copy of the scores as received from the College Board and/or ACT.
3. Mail your completed scholarship application by the **April 2** postmark deadline to the address indicated above.

Attention College Students:

4. You must *also* submit current official transcripts of your grades from each college you have attended.
A high school record is needed regardless of the applicant's year in college.

Student Information:

Social Security Number _____ - _____ - _____ E-Mail _____

Mr. Ms. Name: First _____ MI _____ Last _____

Home Mailing Address _____ Apartment _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone # (_____) _____ Cell/Alternate Phone # (_____) _____

High School Information:

High School Name _____ City _____ State _____

Academic Information:

Applicant: Please fill out the information in the boxes below.

College class level in fall				College GPA (if in college)	High School GPA	High School Class Rank	High School Class Size	ACT-Composite	SAT-Verbal	SAT-Math	SAT-Essay
1	2	3	4								
(circle one)											

Please indicate below the number of each preparatory class (es) you have completed (if applicable).

Honors: _____ Advanced Placement: _____ International Baccalaureate: _____

College Information: (Specify your first choice only)

State _____ Full College Name (Do not abbreviate) _____

Major _____

Eligible Employee Information:

Please fill out the Applicant and/or Parent/Legal Guardian Sections for the person/s that makes the applicant eligible. If both of the sections below apply, please fill in all necessary information.

Applicant: Company Name _____

Store# _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Hire Date (Month) _____ (Year) _____ Business phone # (_____) _____

Parent/Legal Guardian: Full Name _____ SS# _____ - _____ - _____

Company Name _____

Store# _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Hire Date (Month) _____ (Year) _____ Business phone # (_____) _____

Applicant Resume: You may attach a separate page if necessary.

Activities: List activities in which you have participated during your academic career.

Activity Description	Years	Highest Position Held

Community Service: List agencies or organizations in which you have participated WITHOUT PAY during your academic career.

Agency/Organization	Total Hours	Start Date	End Date	Still Active?

Honors and Awards: List any honors or awards you received during your academic career.

Description	Level	Years Achieved

Work Experience: List your work experience from up to the last three jobs you have held.

Employer	Position	To – From Dates	Hours (average per week)

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

All documents must arrive in the same package for the submission to be considered complete. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

You may use the following checklist to ensure the application process is complete.

- I have attached my application and activities form.
- I have attached my high school record.
- I have attached copies of my ACT and/or SAT scores (documented on high school record or on score report).
- I have attached my college transcript(s) (for college students only).

CERTIFICATION

I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the information on this application is complete and accurate. Falsification of any information will cause my disqualification from the scholarship competition.

I understand it is my responsibility to make sure the application process is complete by the required deadline. If not, the application may be disqualified from the awards competition and may not be considered for an award.

This application, upon receipt, becomes the property of the program sponsor and of International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc.

I agree that if selected as an award winner, the program sponsor or its agents may use my name and likeness and any other information or materials provided in connection with this program for purposes of news, publicity and advertising in all media, including but not limited to print and electronic media, press releases, internet websites, and video media.

To comply with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, I hereby grant permission for school officials to release secondary school records and other requested information, if necessary.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

(If the student is under 18 years old)