January, 2021

Dear Scholarship Applicant:

The National Federation of the Blind of Minnesota announces its 2021 scholarship program. This year we will be awarding one scholarship for $2,000 and one scholarship for $1,500 to qualified applicants. In addition to the monetary award, winners will have the opportunity to attend the annual convention of the National Federation of the Blind during July 6-11 which will be a virtual convention this year. At the convention, scholarship winners will have the chance to meet other blind students from throughout the country and gain valuable insights into succeeding as blind people. Additionally, both winners are required, at our expense, to attend the National Federation of the Blind of Minnesota convention in the fall, November 5-7, 2021, in Bloomington, Minnesota. The scholarships will be presented at the banquet of this convention. Our state convention was a "virtual convention" in 2020, and final decisions will be made closer to the scheduled date. Whether our convention is virtual or we can meet in person, there will be scholarships awarded.

Candidates must be students who are legally blind and attending a post-secondary school full-time in Minnesota. In order to apply for a scholarship, complete the attached application and include the additional required documents and send it to <scholarships@nfbmn.org>. If you have received this information on paper, please consider completing an online application at

[https://www.nfbmn.org/programs/scholarships](https://forms.gle/TCFzmx7WH2fQhYgG8)

and email the required attachments to <scholarships@nfbmn.org>. A Microsoft Word version of this information and application can also be requested through the same email address.

If it is necessary to send this information on paper, mail to:  
  
NFB of Minnesota Scholarships  
100 East 22nd Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

The following documents must also be supplied:

1. **Personal essay from applicant**. NFB scholarships are awarded on the basis of scholastic excellence and community/campus service and leadership. In your essay, discuss your academic and career goals as well as your academic, community, and/or employment experiences. Tell us about yourself and why you are a deserving recipient of the scholarship. Since the awards are restricted to legally blind people, the committee will also be interested in the techniques you use to succeed as a student who is blind.
2. **Two letters of recommendation**. You can send these via email to <scholarships@nfbmn.org>
3. **Current official transcript** from institution now attending and transcripts from all other post-secondary institutions attended. If you have not yet completed one year of college study, submit a transcript from the high school you previously attended.

**Interview with Committee Member**: All applicants will be contacted by a member of the scholarship committee shortly after the application deadline. A telephone interview will enable the committee to learn more about you and your goals for the future.

*Your application, essay, letters of recommendation, and transcript(s) must be received by* ***April 15, 2021****.*

If you or anyone else should have any questions regarding these awards, please contact the Scholarship Committee, at <scholarships@nfbmn.org> or call us at 612-872-9363.

Additionally, the National Federation of the Blind offers 30 national scholarships each year. This is a completely separate program with a separate application process. The application deadline for that program is March 31, and an interview by our state president before the national deadline is required. If you would like more information about the national scholarships, visit <http://www.nfb.org/scholarships>

To learn more about us and what we do here in Minnesota, please visit <http://www.nfbmn.org>

Sincerely,

NFB of Minnesota Scholarship Committee

**National Federation of the Blind of Minnesota**

**2021 Scholarship Application**

If you have received this application on paper, please use the online form at <https://www.nfbmn.org/programs/scholarships> or request an electronic copy by email from Scholarships@nfbmn.org. Send all information to <scholarships@nfbmn.org> including additional required documents. If you need to send paper copies, send them to the address provided earlier in this document.

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you legally blind? \_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_ no

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School currently attending\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Current class standing (Freshman, sophomore, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative grade point at this institution: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School attending next Fall\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated credit load\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

List all postsecondary schools attended with highest class standing attained and cumulative GPA:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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High school attended and cumulative grade point average:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Major: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Awards and honors (attach list if necessary):

Community service (attach list if necessary):

**Letters of recommendation**: Attach two letters of recommendation or send via email (PDF, RTF, doc, docx, or txt) to [Scholarships.nfbmn@gmail.com](mailto:Scholarships.nfbmn@gmail.com) and list those writing letters here:

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Essay**: NFB scholarships are awarded on the basis of scholastic excellence and community/campus service and leadership. In an essay, discuss the goals you have for the future as well as your academic and community activities. Tell us about yourself and why you are a deserving recipient of the scholarship. Since the awards are restricted to legally blind people, the committee will also be interested in the techniques you use to succeed as a student who is blind. Attach an essay discussing goals, academic and community activities, and techniques you use as a blind student, or send your essay (PDF, RTF, doc or docx) to <scholarships@nfbmn.org>.

Transcripts: Please attach up to 3 of your most recent transcripts, or send them (PDF, RTF, doc or docx) to <scholarships@nfbmn.org>.