

Advocates in Disability Award (ADA) Guidelines

ADA Applicants:

- ADA Applicants should be the following:
 - Between the ages of 14 and 26.
 - A person with a disability.
 - A citizen or permanent resident of the United States.
 - Not an employee of the HSC Health Care System or a family member/member of its Board of Directors or the National Youth Transitions Collaborative Leadership Council.
 - Able to attend the ADA/NYTI Briefing Reception on June 6, 2013 in Washington, DC. For non-Washington DC metropolitan residents, travel and lodging will be covered by The HSC Foundation. If a personal care attendant (PCA) is required for physical assistance, travel and lodging for the PCA are covered as well.
- Those who applied in previous years -- as well as semi-finalists – **are eligible and encouraged** to apply for this year's award.
- Previous ADA recipients are **not eligible** to apply.

ADA Application:

- For those applicants who are paid advocates for individuals with disabilities, your essay detailing your current/previous work that impacts/impacted the lives of individuals with disabilities should discuss your unpaid work and/or what work you are doing that is above and beyond your paid position that impacts/impacted the lives of people with disabilities.
- Letters of reference or support should discuss the applicant's current/past work that impacts/impacted the lives of individuals with disabilities as well as discuss the applicant's ability to execute his or her proposed project.
- A partnership letter should state that the organization is aware of the applicant's proposed project/ADA application and is prepared to work in partnership with the applicant, if he or she is selected to receive the award.

Proposed Project:

- A proposed project should be led and executed by the applicant.
- If a proposed project involves a partnership with an organization to implement the project, the applicant should still lead the project.
- If a proposed project involves a partnership with an organization to implement the project, a partnership letter must be included in the application.
- A proposed project that focuses on serving and empowering individuals with disabilities is given preference.
- A proposed project that has defined and/or measurable outcomes is given preference.
- For an applicant that is also a paid advocate for individuals with disabilities, a proposed project that partners with your employer is discouraged.

Payment/Tax Liability:

- The ADA recipient will receive the \$3,000 cash award at the ADA/NYTI Briefing Reception on June 6, 2013.
- The ADA recipient **is responsible** for any tax liability incurred from receipt of the \$3,000 cash award. The recipient **is not responsible** for the tax liability associated with the up to \$7,000 in project funding support.

Other Important Information:

- Applications must be received by **March 15th at 5 p.m. EST** if submitted via the internet or postmarked by **March 15, 2013** if submitted via United States Postal Service.
- All applicants will be notified of the status of their application on **April 3, 2013**.
- Phone interviews will be conducted, with those selected as semi-finalists, between **April 4th – 12th**. Those selected as semi-finalists are expected to answer questions about themselves and their proposed project, as well as provide a projected budget for their proposed project.
- The ADA/NYTI Briefing Reception will be held on **June 6, 2013**.

If you have additional questions regarding the ADA Application, email Ryan Easterly at REasterly@cscn.org.