August 1, 2020

Dear Scholarship Applicant,

The National Federation of the Blind of New York State, Inc. proudly announces our 2020 Scholarship Program. Scholarships will be presented at our virtual State Convention, to be held remotely from October 23-25, 2020.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

* You are a resident of New York State.
* You are legally blind in both eyes.
* You are currently accepted in or enrolled in a degree program at the undergraduate, graduate, or postgraduate level. (This includes both remote and in-person learning.)
* You are available from October 23-25 to virtually attend and fully engage in the NFB of NY State Convention via Zoom.

Applications may be completed online at [www.nfbny.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CArthur%5CDropbox%5CNFB%5CNY%5CWeb%20Archive%5Cwww.nfbny.org). Each application consists of a brief questionnaire and an essay, written by you. All application materials must be received on or before September 19, 2020. A member of the NFB of NYS Scholarship Committee will conduct a brief telephone interview with each applicant prior to September 27.

NFB of NYS scholarships are awarded on the basis of scholastic excellence, leadership, and community service. In preparing your application, you may wish to keep the following things in mind:

* You do not need to be a current member of the National Federation of the Blind to apply for, or win, one of our scholarships.
* A well written, carefully edited application will count strongly in your favor.
* The committee members are all successful blind college graduates. Consider how you can most effectively convey your best qualities.
* Since the awards are restricted to blind people, the committee will be interested in the techniques and approaches you use in living as a blind person, as well as your attitude toward and perception of life as a blind person.
* Almost all blind students have financial need. Committee members will assume basic need, so you may choose to refer to this topic only if your need is unusual.
* We are interested in getting to know you. Please highlight your scholarship, leadership, and community service so that we can get a sense of you as a well-rounded individual.

**Scholarship finalists are required to attend and participate in the entire State Convention, which this year will be conducted remotely.** You will be notified a few weeks prior to the convention if you are a finalist. Scholarships will be awarded at our Convention’s Virtual Banquet on October 25, 2020.

We look forward to getting to know you through your scholarship application!

Sincerely,

Catherine Mendez, Chair
NFB of NYS Scholarship Committee

If you are interested in connecting with other blind college students in New York State, you can find the New York Association of Blind Students on Facebook at [**facebook.com/nyabs**(link is external)](http://www.facebook.com/nyabs), or on twitter: [**@nyabslink**(link is external)](http://www.twitter.com/nyabslink).