

December 1, 2023

Dear Guidance Counselor/School Administrator,

We would like to invite students from your school to apply for a **Horatio Alger Scholarship**.

Since 1984, the Horatio Alger Association has awarded college scholarships to deserving students. To date, the Association has awarded over \$245 million in scholarships to over 35,000 students. Through nationally recognized educational programs, the Association reaches out directly to our nation's young people with a message of hope, opportunity, responsibility, and perseverance.

In keeping with the mission of the Horatio Alger Association, the scholarship programs provide financial assistance to students throughout the nation who have significant financial need and have exhibited integrity and perseverance in overcoming personal adversity. The scholarships are given to deserving students each year and range in award value from **\$10,000 to \$25,000**, with more than 600 scholarships available.

**As a reminder, the focus of our National and State Scholarship Programs is to award high school juniors.** We believe that early identification and support is key to helping promising young people who have faced adversity achieve their dream of a college/university education. We continue to encourage high school seniors to apply for our specialized awards which can be found on the "Undergraduate Scholarships" page on our website.

**Eligibility criteria include: high school junior, demonstrated critical financial need (\$65,000 or lower adjusted gross family income), and United States citizenship.**

We ask that you place the enclosed poster in a prominent location at your school to let students know about the Horatio Alger Scholarship Programs. Students may apply online December 1 – March 15 at [horatioalger.org/scholarships](http://horatioalger.org/scholarships).

**IMPORTANT: In order for an application to be considered complete, the applicant's counselor must complete a Certification Form online. See page two of this letter for additional details.**

We look forward to receiving applications from your students as we seek to recognize outstanding young people.

Sincerely,



Terrence J. Giroux  
Executive Director

## HORATIO ALGER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION

The Horatio Alger Association seeks to assist students who have demonstrated integrity, perseverance in overcoming adversity, strength of character, financial need, a good academic record, commitment to pursue a college education, and a desire to contribute to society.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

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To be considered eligible for Horatio Alger National and State Scholarship Programs, applicants must:

- Be enrolled full-time as a **high school junior** in the United States, progressing normally toward graduation in spring/summer 2025 with plans to enter a college in the United States no later than the fall following graduation
- Exhibit a strong **commitment to pursue and complete a bachelor's degree at an accredited non-profit public or private institution** in the United States (students may start their studies at a two-year institution and then transfer to a four-year institution)
- Demonstrate **critical financial need** (\$65,000 or lower adjusted gross family income is required)
- Be involved in **co-curricular and community service** activities
- Display **integrity and perseverance** in overcoming adversity
- Maintain a **minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0**
- Be a United States citizen

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

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To apply for the Horatio Alger Scholarship Programs, the following items must be completed by **March 15**:

- An online application at [horatioalger.org/scholarships](http://horatioalger.org/scholarships)
- One Support Form completed online. This must be completed by an adult over the age of 21 who is not related to the applicant and who is aware of the adversities mentioned in the application. **This form must be filled out online. Faxes, emails, or letters will not be accepted.**
- Online Certification Form. A login will be emailed to the applicant's counselor.
- High school transcript. Applicants should upload a transcript through the application. **Transcripts must be submitted online and must include completed grades for the Fall 2023 semester.**
- Income Verification. A copy of **the first page** of the applicant's parent(s) federal tax return (1040, 1040A, 1040 EZ or 1099 SSA-Social Security form) or tax transcript (request a tax transcript here [www.irs.gov/Individuals/Order-a-Transcript](http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Order-a-Transcript)) from 2022 is needed in order to verify income stated on the application. If an applicant's parents were not required to file a tax return, include statement copies of any government benefits, such as Public Assistance or Disability payment documents. Income verifications may be uploaded online or sent by mail. Applicants of divorced or legally separated parents need to submit tax forms from both parents. **No emails or faxes accepted.**