

2020 Sandhills PRIDE Scholarship Application

The mission of Sandhills Pride is to UNITE, CELEBRATE, ENHANCE and SERVE LGBTQ people, their allies and its organizations by providing social engagement, service, education and leadership in the Sandhills region of North Carolina. Sandhills Pride will UNITE a visible LGBTQ community; CELEBRATE the freedom and equality of all people; ENHANCE the well-being and development of the local LGBTQ community by contributing to organizations with like-minded purposes; and SERVE the Sandhills region through social engagement, education, leadership, charity, goodwill, and responsible citizenship. Sandhills Pride is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization located in Moore County, NC.

The **Sandhills PRIDE Scholarship** is dedicated to assisting gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gender queer and LGBTQ allied students in furthering their educations to become successful, productive adults. The scholarship is funded by individual donations and Sandhills PRIDE fundraisers.

Dear Applicant: Sandhills PRIDE is pleased to be offering a scholarship fund for the upcoming academic year.

- A total of \$10,000 may be awarded in Sandhills PRIDE Scholarships in 2020. Up to four scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 each will be available for students of any North Carolina accredited high school in the Sandhills region.
- Scholarship funds must be used for educational expenses.
- Awards will be distributed to the college, university, or vocational school upon receipt of a letter of acceptance and verification of enrollment.

Eligibility In order to be eligible for these funds, you must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a graduating high school senior entering an institute of higher education in the fall.
2. Be a resident of the Sandhills region of North Carolina defined as Cumberland, Hoke, Harnett, Lee, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, or Scotland counties in North Carolina.
3. Identify as a gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gender queer student, or straight ally, who has demonstrated support for equality of the LGBTQ community.
4. Have been accepted by a 4-year college, a 1-2-year community college, or a vocational school for the upcoming academic year.

Requirements You must provide the following documents:

1. Completed Sandhills PRIDE Scholarship Application Form.
2. Unofficial copy of your high school transcript showing a minimum GPA of **3.0 unweighted**.
3. An essay (500 – 1000 words) how you have been involved with and supported the LGBTQ community and your overall efforts to insure the future of LGBTQ equality.
4. Sign and complete the release form if you are 18 years or older. A parent or guardian must sign if you are under 18 years of age.
5. Two letters of recommendation from an individual excluding family and friends. Note: *Reference letters may be submitted individually. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure receipt of reference letters by the deadline.*

Additionally, recipients will be required to attend the scholarship awards banquet or other designated Sandhills PRIDE event, to be held in the Pinehurst/Southern Pines area on April 18, 2020, place to be determined. Student's should also be available for an in person interview as may be required by the scholarship committee.

ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TOGETHER (except reference letters as stated above). IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE APPLICANT TO ENSURE THE COMPLETE SCHOLARSHIP PACKAGE IS RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEE NO LATER THAN MARCH 16, 2020.

USPS Mail: **Sandhills PRIDE**

Scanned applications may be emailed to: scholarship@sandhillspride.org

Attn: Scholarship Committee PO Box 3473, Pinehurst, NC 28374

For additional information, contact the scholarship committee at scholarship@sandhillspride.org

Thank you for your interest and good luck! – **The Sandhills PRIDE Scholarship Committee**

2020 Sandhills PRIDE Scholarship Application

Before completing this form, please read the attached letter to ensure that you meet the eligibility requirements and can agree to the conditions of this award. *Please TYPE your responses to the following questions.*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Name

Physical Address: City, State, Zip

Mailing Address (if different) City, State, Zip

Phone number(s)

E-mail Address

Date of Birth

How you identify yourself:

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer/Gender Queer Straight Ally

Name of High School

City, State of High School

Expected Graduation Date

Name and location of school(s) you plan to attend:

School, City, State

School, City, State

School, City, State

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How did you learn about the Sandhills PRIDE scholarship?

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)

Please list involvement or leadership roles with clubs or extracurricular activities:

Please list any awards, honor or recognitions you have received from your school or community.

Major(s), intended major(s) or area of studies:

ESSAY

Your essay should be 500 – 1000 words and should answer the following.

What accomplishments and activities have you performed to unite, celebrate, support, and serve LGBTQ people, allies, or organizations? How do you plan on making a difference in the LGBTQ community moving forward?

Attach your essay to the application form.

CERTIFICATION I certify that the information contained in this application is true.

APPLICATION MUST BE SIGNED DATED. In fairness to all applicants the Sandhills PRIDE Scholarship Committee will not review any incomplete applications or applications received past the deadline of March 16, 2020. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Applicant's Signature Date

Applicant must submit all of the following documents:

- Completed application
- Unofficial high school transcript
- Essay
- Release form
- Two letters of recommendation

2020 Sandhills PRIDE Scholarship Release Form

To eligible for the scholarship award and to demonstrate advocacy for the LGBTQ community, recipients must allow Sandhills PRIDE to publish announcements of the scholarship award in the news media, social media, etc. and to use the recipient's photograph with publicity releases about the award, and to include a photograph and short bio on social media or on our website. By signing below you agree to these conditions.

Applicant's Signature Date

Printed Name

*If you are under 18 years of age your parent/guardian must sign approving your above responses. If you are over the age of 18, parent/guardian signature will not be necessary, however proof of age will be required.

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Printed Name, Relationship

Sandhills PRIDE Scholarship Reference Letter

*Applicant: Please give a copy of this page to each of your references – no family or friends It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure reference letters are received by the Scholarship Committee by **March 16, 2020**.*

You have been given as a reference by:

Student Name

Reference name (print)

Address City State Zip

E-mail Address Phone Number

What is your relationship with this student? (teacher, advisor, minister, school counselor, etc)

How long have you known this student?

The **Sandhills PRIDE Scholarship** is dedicated to assisting gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, gender queer and LGBTQ allied students in furthering their educations to become successful, productive adults.

What qualities does this student possess that make her/him a good candidate to support the LGBTQ community? What accomplishments, organizations, and activities has this candidate been involved in to unite, celebrate, support, and serve LGBTQ people or allies. Use specific examples when possible.

(Please use a separate sheet of paper.)

Printed Name

Signature Date

This completed form and reference letter may be submitted by the applicant or to the addresses below. Reference documents must be received by **March 16, 2020**. *It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure these reference letters by the deadline.*

Please mail the completed reference form directly to:

Sandhills PRIDE

Attn: Scholarship Committee

PO Box 3473

Pinehurst, NC 28374

Scanned applications may be emailed to: scholarship@sandhillspride.org

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