



# VISUALITY

## Visuality Community Education Fund Graduating High School Senior Scholarship Fund Program Guidelines

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Visuality is dedicated to helping the LGBTQ+ and ally community in the targeted community of South-West Florida to fulfill their potential, realize their value and live their lives with honesty and dignity without having to pretend, lie or hide due to their sexual orientation, gender identity or sexual expression. The belief that “everyone can and will learn with the proper educational resources” is echoed throughout the board of directors’ desire to provide this scholarship. **Visuality is looking for graduating High School seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to social justice.** Visuality is dedicated to providing inclusive services to the South-West Florida community. Visuality facilitates partnerships with key stakeholders to increase achievements and recognition of the LGBT community in South-West Florida.

The **Mission** of Visuality is to enhance and sustain the health and well-being of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer plus communities and our allies by providing activities, programs, educational events and services that create community, empower community members, provide essential resources, advocate for civil and human rights; and embrace, promote and support out cultural diversity. We strive to end violence, harassment, and discrimination based on real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or sexual expression.

The **Vision** of Visuality is to envision a healthy society marked by permanent positive changes in recognition and acceptance of the LGBTQ+ communities; that all individuals are able to fulfill their potential, realize their value and live their lives with honesty and dignity without having to pretend, lie or hide due to their sexual orientation, gender identity or sexual expression.

**The Purpose of the Visuality Scholarship Fund is to provide scholarships to deserving high school graduating seniors intending to pursue a course of study at either a two-year or four-year educational institution.**

**NOTE: Scholarship funds will be awarded to the student upon evidence of registration in an accredited higher educational institution.**

Visuality will award two (2) scholarships in the amount of \$500 per award.

### ***Criteria and eligibility***

1. Applicant must have proof of residence in South-West Florida.
2. Applicant must be a graduating high school senior in the year of the award.
3. **Applicant must have at least a 3.0 grade point average (or a “B” average).**
4. Applicant must have a desired college major.
5. Applicant must demonstrate community involvement, improvement in academics, and desires to attend college.
6. Applicant may not be related to any Board of Directors, or staff of Visuality.
7. Applicant must be willing to attend a scholarship orientation with Visuality.
8. Applicant must have 20 hours of community service.

### ***General Instructions***

1. DEADLINE for scholarship applications is **May 31, 2021, 5:00 p.m.** (no exceptions).
2. Refer to application process below for a list of the supporting documents needed (i.e., reference forms, evidence of GPA, etc.) **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**
3. If any question does not apply to you in this application please put N/A in the space.
4. Type and print legibly. Illegible applications will not be considered. You may also download a copy of the application online at [visualityflorida.org](http://visualityflorida.org)
5. You will be notified by mail in June regarding the status of your application.
6. If you have any questions about the application, please e-mail Visuality at [visualityfloridainc@gmail.com](mailto:visualityfloridainc@gmail.com)

### ***Application Process:***

Applicant must submit the following items:

1. Completed application form (if handwritten, please print legibly)
2. Letter of application addressed to the Scholarship Committee. The letter should contain a brief explanation about yourself and your college plans (college/university, intended major, and anticipated start date). Letter should not exceed one (1) page.
3. Two (2) letters of recommendations from choice of high school teachers, administrators, counselors, employers, or individual with significant knowledge of applicant's experience and involvement.
4. An official and recent high school transcript with cumulative grade point average and a class standing/rank.
5. Personal Essay. Essay must be at least 1-2 typed pages, double-spaced, 12 pt / Time New Roman font. Essay shall contain no grammatical errors.
6. In addition to the above items, applicant must also complete at least 20 hours of community service. Community service hours must be documented in the form of a letter signed the organization.

***Deadline*** for the application is **May 31, 2021, 5:00 p.m.** Applications postmarked after this date will not be considered.

Please mail application in to:

**Visuality Florida Inc.**  
ATTN: Scholarship Committee  
8359 Beacon Blvd, #630  
Fort Myers, Florida 33907



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Application Year 2021

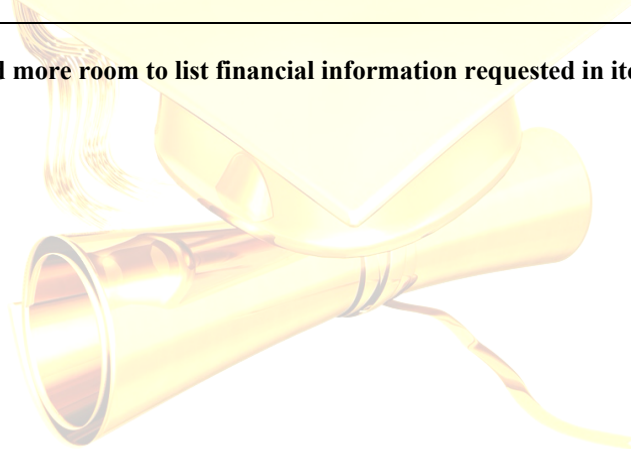
Date of Application:

Please **type** or **print** your answers.

1.	Last Name:	First Name:
2.	Mailing Address:: Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____	
3.	Daytime Telephone Number: (    )	
4.	Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____	
5.	Are you related to any of Visuality Board of Directors or staff? (Please circle)      Yes      No	
6.	Current High School or Current College/University:	Number of years attended:
7.	I will be attending the following school in the <u>Fall of 2021</u> : _____ Proof of acceptance or current student enrollment from the above school is <b>required prior to funds being released to the college or university.</b>	
8.	I will be entering the above-mentioned school as a: (Circle one) Freshman                  Sophomore                  Junior                  Senior	
9.	Grade Point Average (GPA): _____ (On a 4.0 scale) Attach proof of GPA. Your most recent <b>official</b> unopened school transcript required.	
10.	Have you taken the ACT exam? <b>Yes</b> <b>No</b> If no, when do you plan to take the exam: _____ SAT exam? <b>Yes</b> <b>No</b> If no, when do you plan to take the exam: _____	
11.	Name & address of parent(s) or legal guardian(s): Use reverse side of application if you need more space. Name (s) _____ Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Home phone of parents or legal guardians: _____	
12.	Name and city of other high schools attended:	Number of years attended:

13.	List the name of any college you have attended.	Year Began	Year Ended	Year Graduated (If applicable)	Type of Degree Received (If applicable)
	A.				
	B.				
	C.				
14.	What specialty/major do you plan to major in as you continue your education?				
15.	List expenses you expect to incur per semester or quarter: (Approximate figures acceptable)				
	A.	Tuition:	Amount: \$		
	B.	Books:	Amount: \$		
	C.	Room & Board:	Amount: \$		
	D.	Other expenses:	Amount: \$		
Comments:					
16.	List other financial assistance you will receive per semester or quarter: (Other financial assistance will not affect your scholarship eligibility.)				
	A.	Personal:	Amount: \$		
	B.	Other Scholarship(s):	Amount: \$		
	C.	Grants:	Amount: \$		
	C.	Student Loan(s):	Amount: \$		
	D.	Other Financial Resources:	Amount: \$		
Comments:					

Use an additional sheet if you need more room to list financial information requested in items 14 & 15.



17.	List your academic honors, awards and membership activities while in high school:
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18.	List your community service activities, hobbies, outside interests, and extracurricular activities:
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19.	<p><b>Personal Essay</b> Please answer the following questions :</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>What are your educational and professional goals and objectives?</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>How have you demonstrated a commitment to social justice?</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>How will this scholarship and college impact your life?</b></p> <p>This question must be at least 1-2 pages, typed, double-spaced, and 12 pt / Time New Roman font. Please ensure your essay contains no grammatical errors.</p>
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20.	A. The following items must be attached to this application in order for the application to qualify to be reviewed by the scholarship committee. B. Your application will not be considered if these items are not attached to this application. (No exceptions.) C. Circle "YES" or "NO" to be sure you have attached each item as required.	
	YES	NO
	YES	NO
	YES	NO
	YES	NO
	YES	NO
	YES	NO
	YES	NO

**Completed application.** All questions are answered completely.

**Letter to Scholarship Committee.** Not exceeding one (1) page. Must be typed.

**Two (2) Letters of Recommendation.**

**Proof of college acceptance or current student enrollment.** A copy of your college acceptance letter is required for receipt of funds.

**Most recent official high school transcripts.** Photocopies of your transcript are acceptable, if transcript is signed by a guidance counselor or principal.

**Personal Essay.** Must be at least 1-2 pages, typed, double-spaced, and 12 pt / Time New Roman font. Please ensure your essay contains no grammatical errors.

**Community service hours.** Must be documented in the form of a letter on official letterhead from the agency the applicant completed their community service hours.

**STATEMENT OF ACCURACY**

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also consent that my picture may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote Visuality.

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship recipient, according to the Visuality Inc. Scholarship policy, I must provide evidence of enrollment/registration at the college/university institution of my choice before scholarship funds can be awarded.

Signature of scholarship applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of applicant’s guardian/ parent: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

