



2024 Annual Scholarship Awards for High School Seniors with Hearing Loss

The Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey is pleased to offer **two** scholarships in the amount of \$1000 each. High school seniors with hearing loss who plan to attend college, university, or vocational school, beginning Fall 2024, are invited to apply. Eligible applicants must be New Jersey residents between the ages of 17 and 20. The Scholarship is a one-time award that encourages and recognizes academic achievement, leadership qualities, community service, and work experience.

Funding for the Scholarship Awards is generously provided by the Garden State Walk4Hearing event in October 2023. This annual Walk4Hearing held in West Windsor, NJ, is one of 22 walks organized by the national office to raise both funds and awareness of hearing loss. With over 14 state organizations and 200 chapters, the mission of the Hearing Loss Association of America (www.hearingloss.org) is “to open the world of communication for people with hearing loss, through information, education, advocacy, and support”.

On behalf of The Hearing Society, **two** \$1000 scholarships will be awarded. Eligible applicants must be New Jersey residents between the ages of 17 and 20. The Scholarship is a one-time award that encourages and recognizes academic achievement, leadership qualities, community service, and work experience. The Hearing Society was established in 1931 to provide educational programs for children with hearing loss and their families.

Scholarship Application

The Scholarship Application consists of the **Application Form**, and an **Essay**, to be filled out/written, and *submitted by the applicant*. In addition, **four Supporting Documents** (listed below), each of which is requested by the applicant, are *submitted by the individuals (or office) asked*.

Submit ALL parts of the Scholarship Application to Latisha Porter-Vaughn, Scholarship Committee at Miataalking2002@gmail.com with the applicant’s name in the subject line.

The final deadline for the *completed* Scholarship Application is **April 1, 2024**.

Application Instructions:

The following checklist is meant to make the application process easier to understand and follow.

- 1) The applicant is encouraged to fill out the **Application Form** (two pages) and submit it as soon as completed to Miataalking2002@gmail.com with the applicant’s name in the subject line.
- 2) Next, the applicant should contact five people who will agree to send in one of **four Supporting Documents**. (Please give ample notice to all the people you ask!) All four of the supporting documents will be submitted by the individuals asked (*not the applicant*), to the Scholarship Committee Chair, Latisha Porter-Vaughn at Miataalking2002@gmail.com, with your/ applicant’s name in the subject line. The Supporting Documents include:
 - a) **Two Letters of Reference** -- two from high school teachers/guidance counselor. List the two adults that you/applicant select for Letters of Reference in the last section of the Application Form (bottom of page 2); then contact them and send by e-mail a copy of the “[Letter of Reference for HLAA Scholarship](#)” page, with the first two lines filled in by you, the Applicant. (This Letter of Reference page provides instructions to the Letter of Reference writers, including the request to send their letters directly to Miataalking2002@gmail.com, with the applicant’s name in the subject line, before the deadline, April 1.)

b) Your/applicant’s **high school transcript** should be requested from the high school registrar. Please ask that the transcript be sent directly to Miataalking2002@gmail.com (with applicant’s name in the subject line).

c) **A recent audiogram and audiological report:** Please request from your/applicant’s audiologist a scanned copy of the applicant’s most recent report, dated within the last two years. Please email to Miataalking2002@gmail.com with the applicant’s name in the subject line.

- 3) **Essay:** The third and final part of the Application is the Essay of approximately 500 words, written by you/the applicant, with the title, “**How Hearing Loss Has Impacted My Life and How I Have Met Those Challenges.**” Describe the impact of hearing loss on your life academically, emotionally, and socially. How have you met those challenges? In addition to your own efforts, tell us about other people who may have helped you as well as any assistive technology. Include details about your career goals, and your educational plan for achieving these goals.

Please submit your **Essay** --which may be sent later than (and separate from) the **Application Form** -- to Miataalking2002@gmail.com , with your name in the subject line before the deadline, April 1, 2024. If possible, submit it as a Word Doc or PDF attachment. **Applications that are not complete will not be accepted.**

Completing the Scholarship Application:

- 4) With the following checklist summary (in table below), double-check that all parts of your Application (with detailed instructions above) have been submitted. Using the same chart, the Scholarship Committee will assemble the items you are responsible for sending (**Application Form** and **Essay**), with the two **letter of reference** (sent by the writers at different times) into a digital folder with your name. When all parts are received, you will be notified by e-mail that your Scholarship Application is complete. If parts of your application are missing or incomplete, you will be notified by e-mail about one week before the April 1 deadline. Only completed Scholarship Applications will be evaluated by the Scholarship Committee.

Check if Sent to/received by Latisha Porter-Vaughn, Scholarship Chair: Miataalking2002@gmail.com .				Rec’d.
See Instructions (#above)		Sent by	v	
1	Application Form (2 pages)	Applicant		
2	Applicant’s Essay	Applicant		
3	Letter of Reference	Evaluator (1)		
4	Letter of reference	Evaluator (2)		
5	High School transcript	High School		
6	Audiogram and Audiological Report	Audiologist		

Final Notes:

- 5) The top candidates will be contacted sometime in April.
- 6) Winners are expected to attend the **Scholarship Award Ceremony** and give short speeches. **Details will follow.** Join us with your family and friends and teachers to celebrate, meet the Scholarship Committee, and learn more about the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey with its wealth of valuable resources.

Thank you for your time and effort in applying. If you/applicant, Letter of Reference writers, school counselors or parents have any further questions or concerns (or difficulties with an online Application submission), please e-mail Latisha Porter-Vaughn, Scholarship Committee Chair (Miataalking2002@gmail.com). Good Luck!