



No.



Application

McKeown Scholars Program

The McKeown Scholars Program was developed by Cummings Foundation, Inc. and New Horizons Retirement Community in memory of James L. McKeown. The late president of Woburn-based Cummings Properties, and charter trustee of both New Horizons and the Foundation, Mr. McKeown died suddenly in 1996 at the age of 41. A well-known business leader, he was widely respected for his outstanding professional expertise, mild manner, and far-reaching desire to provide opportunities for others, particularly young people.

In his honor, Cummings Properties donated one million dollars to provide numerous *merit* scholarships each year to outstanding college-bound high school seniors. Currently, the McKeown Scholar Program is available to qualifying high school seniors who are legal residents of **Woburn**, where Cummings Foundation has its most significant interests, and **Winchester**, where it has its origins. Enrollment in the public high school of either town is not required. The McKeown scholarships began as \$5,000 awards in 1997 and have been increased to \$10,000 each for 2010 and later years, with one winner from each high school.

Eligibility and selection criteria represent qualities, values, and achievements that Mr. McKeown embodied and would most likely have considered himself in determining award recipients. Some of these criteria include scholarship, strong communication ability, community service, reputation for fairness and integrity, and demonstrated interest in helping others. **A student must also be academically ranked within the top 20% of his or her graduating class, per the most recent published statistics, and must complete the application process on a timely basis.** Financial need should *not* be a consideration.

A designated school official will verify the student's eligibility, class rank, and SAT scores. He or she will then certify by signing the application that, in his or her opinion, the applicant's reputation for fairness, integrity, and community service is such that the student meets initial criteria and qualifies to continue with the application process by completing a required one-hour essay.

As writing ability is such a key component of the McKeown Scholars Program, all eligible students are *required* to complete a minimum 500-word essay on a previously unannounced subject, under carefully controlled conditions, on an assigned date in early March. This number-coded one-hour essay (corresponding to the number on this application) will be administered *at each community's local public high school (only)* and evaluated anonymously by that school's English Department officials. Essays will be used as the sole determining factor in further identifying the most qualified applicants, who shall be designated as "finalists." Thereafter, students in this latter category will be referred to the selection committee for personal interviews at the local public high school. It is expected that no more than three applicants should become finalists for each award available in each community.

Based upon the personal interviews conducted with all finalists, in conjunction with all other application materials, the selection committee in each community will select the award winner, who will then be designated as the school's Most Outstanding All-Around Graduate.

Please take time to carefully complete this application, addressing each item clearly. Feel free to supplement this form, as necessary, to elaborate more on any specific answer or to provide supporting materials. We appreciate your interest in the McKeown Scholars Program, and wish you the very best as you compete for this most prestigious and meaningful award.

PERSONAL DATA

(Please print neatly in ink, or type all responses.)

Date of Application: _____ / _____ / _____
MM DD YY

Name: _____
(First) (Middle Initial) (Last)

Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____
MM DD YY

Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____
(Street) (City/Town) (State) (Zip)

High School: _____

School Address: _____
(Street) (City/Town) (State) (Zip)

Class rank: _____ of _____ **S.A.T. (highest scores):** verbal _____ math _____ **date:** _____ / _____
MM YY

I certify that the information provided on this application is true, and I hereby apply for consideration in the McKeown Scholars Program. I agree to be bound by all rules and regulations governing this program. I also hereby consent to and authorize the use, reproduction, distribution and publication of my name, portrait, photograph, and any part of my application, including written essays, for any purpose relating to this program, without compensation to me. I understand and agree that my name, photograph and/or likeness may be copied and distributed, in the sole discretion of the Program, by means of various media, including video, websites and/or newspapers.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian's Signature (if applicant is not at least 18 years of age)

Date

ADMINISTRATOR'S CERTIFICATION

(A designated school administrator must complete this section in full.)

I certify that I have reviewed and verified all information herein, and that the applicant is a legal resident of the participating community. In my most objective opinion, he/she meets the stated criteria necessary for eligibility for the McKeown Scholars Program, including a known reputation for fairness, integrity, and community service.

Administrator's Name: Telephone: _____

Administrator's Signature Title/Position Date

SHORT ESSAYS BY APPLICANT

Respond to each section to your best ability. You may continue any answer(s) on the reverse side of this page, as necessary. You are also invited to submit copies of any work you have had printed in a school or community publication.

- 1. Describe your most substantial involvement in one community or school activity. Discuss how you have had a personal, measurable impact upon the success of this activity.*
- 2. Discuss a significant situation during which you have assisted another individual during that person's time of great need.*
- 3. What in life do you consider to be your strongest motivation? How has it guided you in your own personal development?*
- 4. Describe your greatest personal challenge to date. How are you handling that challenge, or how did you meet it?*

Once all certified applications have been received by your community's local public high school by the established submission deadline, you will prepare a writing sample, on a designated topic and in a controlled environment, at that school (only). Following anonymous evaluation by the school's English Department, this writing sample will serve as the next determining factor in selecting McKeown Scholars finalists, whom the selection committee will then personally interview. At that point, the committee will consider all application materials to determine the actual winner(s). The winner(s) will receive a handsome commendatory plaque, along with a \$10,000 scholarship to be paid upon enrollment in an accredited four-year college/university. 05/10