



THE TDI "TURNING DREAMS INTO REALITIES" SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

T.D.I., Turning Dreams Into Realities, is a non-profit organization founded by Alabama State University alumni from the states of Texas and Alabama that is dedicated to assisting high school or college students with making a successful transition into adulthood, higher education or the professional workforce by way of mentor programs, scholarships, internships, leadership, or entrepreneurship opportunities. For more information see our website at www.tdi2r.org.

TDI's Mission is dedicated to assisting people turn their dreams into reality by providing scholarships, mentoring, and professional development. Through our story and brand, we will help by developing or enhancing leadership qualities, equipping people with tools for professional growth, or coaching habits for success.

TDI's Vision is to advance human well-being by assisting in developing holistic, well rounded individuals who will become positive contributors to society and will in turn assist in reciprocating that effort for future generations of young men and women.

TDI's Core Values are God 1st, Family 2nd, Integrity, Giving, Humble, Trust, & Service

The Turning Dreams Into Realities Mentorship Program was established to support the collegiate financial and developmental needs of young men attending college who have a desire to make positive change in the world after college. This mentorship program was created in the spirit of what defines TDI yesterday, today and tomorrow, which is the embracing of fellowship and strong relationships, the desire to have fun, and the assurance that all endeavors are performed in excellence. Scholarships are one of the main elements included in the TDI Mentorship Program and unlike most scholarships, in addition to providing financial support, TDI plans to assist in providing internship opportunities for students. A limited number of students who are not awarded scholarships can still participate in the Mentorship Program. Equally important, the TDI Mentorship Program will also provide opportunities for students to receive invaluable leadership coaching and guidance by assisting in activities such as public speaking events, fundraising programs, and business development planning. In addition to leadership development and business acumen, TDI cares about sharing lessons learned from its member's experiences in an effort to reduce the risk of mentored students making the same mistakes. We want to form life-long personal and business relationships with our mentees. For more information on the TDI Mentorship Program, see our website at www.tdi2r.org.

The Turning Dreams Into Realities Scholarship Awards are always awarded to deserving students. Scholarship Award recipients receive their scholarships each semester as long as they maintain their eligibility based on the requirements outlined below. Scholarships are generally provided to underclassmen (for example, entering their freshman year) as well as upperclassmen (for example, entering their junior year). The TDI Scholarship Award provides for an initial scholarship pledge of up to \$10,000 through the year 2020. Participation in the TDI Mentorship Program is one of the requirements to continue receiving scholarship awards each semester. If a scholarship award recipient fails to maintain the scholarship award requirements at any point during their college career, the allotted scholarship awards for that given year will be made available to other participants of the Mentorship Program. In addition to providing annual scholarship awards, TDI plans to provide one-time scholarship awards as well as non-traditional awards such as tablets, airline tickets, and other types of non-monetary support. TDI recognizes that student financial, academic and developmental needs can vary; thus, our program has been designed to fill as many gaps as possible by providing mentorship, scholarships, and many other opportunities throughout a student's college career.

The Turning Dreams Into Realities Scholarship Award is available to applicants meeting the following eligibility requirements:

- ✚ Males attending a 4-year University
- ✚ Completion of an essay (***topic disclosed below***)
- ✚ **Active participation in the TDI Turning Dreams Into Realities Mentorship Program**
- ✚ Must currently have and/or maintain a GPA of 2.8 or higher. If an incoming freshman, your high school graduation GPA must be 2.8 or higher.

Required documentation for this application:

- ✚ Complete application, including the Essay (***enter "N/A" in a section if it doesn't apply***)
- ✚ One Reference Letter from a teacher/professor, guidance counselor, employer or community leader (civic or religious)

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

SECTION A. PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:

DATE:

FIRST NAME:

MIDDLE INITIAL:

LAST NAME:

PERMANENT ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP CODE:

HOME PHONE:

CELL PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

DATE OF BIRTH (mm/dd/yyyy):

HIGHEST DEGREE DESIRED:

MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY:

EXPECTED DATE OF GRADUATION:

CAREER GOALS AND DESIRES:

What is the best way to contact you?

Current GPA *(if entering your freshman year, please provide your final high school GPA)*

SAT/ACT *(if entering your freshman year, please provide your highest SAT/ACT score)*

SECTION B. PERSONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Name:

(enter "N/A" in a section if it doesn't apply)

Work Experience: Please list your work experience, beginning with your most recent employment.

Name of Employer	Position Held	Start date	End date
Example: <i>East-West Wellness Center</i>	<i>Program Assistant</i>	<i>5/07</i>	<i>present</i>

Awards or Honors: Please list any awards, honors or special recognition you have received.

Title of Award	Year
Example: <i>Arlington High School - Scholar Athlete of the Year</i>	<i>2006</i>

Organizational Membership: Please list organizational memberships and offices. These may include community organizations, teams, clubs, fraternities, sororities, honor societies, etc.

Name of Organization	Start date	End date
Example: <i>National Honors Society</i>	<i>9/05</i>	<i>5/07</i>

Name:

Volunteer Work/Community Activities: Describe your volunteer work and/or community activities.

Name of Organization	Description of responsibility	Start date	End date
Example: <i>Relay for Life</i>	<i>Team Captain: Organized a team of 25 members including family and friends. Raised nearly \$3,500</i>	<i>3/07</i>	<i>6/07</i>

Extra-Curricular Activities: Dates may not always be applicable with extra-curricular activities.

Activity	Start date	End date
Example: <i>Summer counselor, Camp Sea Side</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2006</i>

SECTION C. ESSAY

Name:

In this essay, discuss “What are your dreams in life?” Feel free to include such things as how your dreams will benefit or help others, how you plan to achieve your dreams, what you need to reach your dreams, or who you want to share in your dreams.

Please type your essay and attach it as a separate document to your application. Essays must be a minimum of 1,000 words, typed, and double spaced. *Hand-written essays will not be accepted.*

SECTION D. REFERENCE LETTER

One letter of recommendation should be included with your scholarship application packet. Your recommendation letter should be written by someone who knows you, personally, and can provide a detailed explanation to such topics as the 3 pertinent areas listed in the next paragraph. **We recommend you ask either a guidance counselor, teacher/professor, employer, or community leader (civic or religious) to provide your reference letter.**

AS AN EXAMPLE ONLY, your reference letter could include specific responses to the following 3 areas:

- 1. An explanation of your relationship, how long you have known each other, and in what capacity.**
- 2. A description of how you, the applicant, have dealt with your life experiences from their perspective?** For example, they may want to discuss personal challenges and triumphs, lifestyle changes that you've encountered, or any interests that you began pursuing because of your "dreams"!
- 3. A discussion on how your family or support group has changed or supported your educational or professional goals.** For example, they may want to discuss how their time, financial or spiritual support was provided in order for you to achieve your personal goals and objectives.

SECTION E. DISCLOSURE STATEMENT:

I certify that all statements in this application are true. I understand that if I have not been truthful in any aspect of this process, I may become ineligible for participation in the mentorship program as well as any scholarships or other awards and any funds I have been awarded may be terminated. I understand that this application will become the property of TDI. I agree that my essay may be reprinted in part or in full for the purposes of supporting, educating and connecting other students.

Applicant's Signature: _____ **Date**_____

SECTION G. FINAL CHECKLIST:

Take a moment and review the following list. Have you completed and enclosed all the necessary pieces?

- Completed all sections of the application (*enter "N/A" in a section if it doesn't apply*)
- Included a typed essay
- Signed and dated the Disclosure Statement
- Included one reference letter

REMEMBER: *Incomplete applications will not be considered.*

Scholarship applications must be received by email or US mail.

EMAIL YOUR APPLICATION PACKET TO:

info@tdi2r.org (with a subject line of Application)

OR

MAIL YOUR APPLICATION PACKET TO:

**T.D.I., Turning Dreams Into Realities
c/o Marc Desgraves, Board Member
P.O. Box 270933
Flower Mound, TX 75027-0933**