



Tzu Chi Scholars 2009

Taiwan Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation, U.S.A.

\$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD. U.S. Postmark Deadline March 31, 2009

About Tzu Chi Foundation

Tzu Chi Scholars is a scholarship program funded by Tzu Chi Foundation to recognize and to assist outstanding college-bound high school graduates financially. Tzu Chi Scholars are selected on the basis of their financial need, academic achievement, and community involvement. Each scholar will be awarded a total of \$1,000.00. Tzu Chi Foundation is a volunteer-led charitable organization providing humanitarian aid, spiritual care, and medical services to families and communities, both locally and internationally.

Dharma Master Cheng Yen in Taiwan founded the Foundation in 1966. Guided by the four basic Buddhist principles of kindness, compassion, joy, and unselfish giving, Tzu Chi strives to ease suffering on earth and to inspire compassion in others by volunteerism. Through principles of sincerity, integrity, trust, and honesty, Tzu Chi volunteers serve all who needs assistance, regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion. The four major areas of services Tzu Chi provides are charitable services, medical care, education, and humanitarian culture. In addition, the Foundation has established bone marrow registries and promotes community service and environmental conservation, and provides services for international relief. Please visit our website at www.us.tzuchi.org.

Eligibility

1. Demonstrates financial need for college tuition
2. Is a U.S. high school graduating seniors or equivalent
3. Has a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (unweighted)
4. Will enroll in an accredited U.S. college full-time for the entire academic year 2009/2010

Documents Required

1. A completed Tzu Chi Scholarship application form
2. An official high school transcript
3. A Copy of one of the three following document(s) demonstrating the financial need:
 - a. Family's complete set of 1040 Income Tax Return Form of year 2008, or
 - b. Family's complete set of 1040 Income Tax Return Form of year 2007 and most recent W-2, or
 - c. Any documentation which serves as the proof of your financial hardship etc.
4. Two letters of recommendation from the teachers, counselors, and/or other advisors
5. An at least two-page typed autobiography and why you should be awarded a scholarship. Please include all of the following:
 - Financial need for this scholarship for educational purposes
 - Personal and academic achievements, give specific examples
 - Academic plans and career goals, give specific examples
 - Past and current involvement, as well as future plans, towards making a difference in your community
6. An one-page short essay about Tzu Chi; based on the information you've studied (e.g. on the web sites, Tzu Chi publications, or news articles etc.) Please explain what you have found out about Tzu Chi that inspires you in any capacity. Feel free to express your thoughts and be true to yourself.

* **Only application with complete set of documents mentioned above will be considered for 2009 scholarship.**

** **For scholarship application and information, please visit our website <http://www.us.tzuchi.org>**

*** **Scholars for the 2009 scholarship program will be announced by mail on or before May 20, 2009**

Application Process & Award Announcement

1. Please send your application package to your nearest Tzu Chi Foundation Regional Office and indicate: **Attn: Scholarship Program**

- ◇ **National Headquarters** (S. CA/S. NV/AZ/UT/NM/CO)
1100 S. Valley Center Ave., San Dimas, CA 91773
Tel: 909-447-7799
- ◇ **Central Region** (North of TX/KS/OK/AR/TN)
534 W. Belt Line Rd, Richardson, TX, 75080
Tel: 972-680-8869
- ◇ **Mid-Atlantic Region** KY/PA/WV/DE/NJ)
150 Commerce Rd., Cedar Grove, NJ 07009
Tel: 973-857-8666
- ◇ **Midwest Region** (ND/SD/MN/WI/MI/NE/IA/MO/IL/IN)
1430 Plainfield Rd., Darien, IL 60561
Tel: 630-963-6601
- ◇ **Northeast Region** (NY/VT/NH/ME/MA/RI/CT)
137-77 Northern Blvd., Flushing, NY 11354
Tel: 718-888-0866
- ◇ **Northwest Region** (N. CA/N. NV/OR/WA/ID/MT/WY)
175 Dempsey Rd., Milpitas, CA 95035
Tel: 408-262-3389
- ◇ **Pacific Islands Region** (HI/GU/AK)
1238 Wilhelmina Rise, Honolulu, HI 96816
Tel: 808-737-8885
- ◇ **Southern Region** (South of TX/LA/FL/MS/AL/GA)
6200 Corporate Dr., Houston, TX 77036
Tel: 713-270-9988
- ◇ **Washington D.C. Region** (DC/MD/NC/SC/VA)
1516 Mooring Dr., Reston, VA 20190
Tel: 703-707-8606

2. Application form must be postmarked by March 31, 2009.
3. Home visit and/or interview may be part of the application process.

* **Scholarships will be awarded at the Scholarship Award Ceremony in your nearest Tzu Chi Foundation Regional Office (Date is to be announced). The \$1,000 award will be directly deposited to your student account at your college.**



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Scholarship Application Form

*Postmark no later than March 31, 2009

| APPLICANT | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|------------------------------------|--|
| Name | Last | First | <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female | Social Security No. | |
| Address | | | Date of Birth | MM/DD/YY | |
| | | | Home Tel | () | |
| | | | Cell Number | () | |
| Parent or Guardian | | | Your e-mail | | |
| High School | | | High School Address | | |
| Counselor | | | High School Phone Number | | |
| College you plan to attend | | | Planned Major Field of Study | | |
| GPA weighted 4.0 scale | Ethnic Group (Optional) *check all that apply: | <input type="checkbox"/> African American, Black <input type="checkbox"/> Asian American (original country _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Asian (country _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic, Latino (country _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Mexican American, Chicano | <input type="checkbox"/> Native American, Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican <input type="checkbox"/> White or Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ | | |
| Extracurricular Activities in HS | | | | | |
| Financial Documents included <input type="checkbox"/> 1040 Tax Return <input type="checkbox"/> Others | | | | | |
| Please check your household income: | | | | Number of people in your household | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Below \$15,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$15,001-30,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$30,001-\$50,000 <input type="checkbox"/> above \$50,000 | | | | | |
| REFERENCES | | | | | |
| Name | Relationship | Phone Number | Address | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| I certify that the information contained in this application is true. | | | | | |
| Applicant's signature _____ Date _____ | | | | | |



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Deadline for Tzu Chi Scholarship Application

National Headquarters

- March 31, 2009** Application form postmark deadline
- April 5, 2009** Supporting documents due
- May 10, 2009** Finalize
- May 20, 2009** Announcement of scholars
- June 13, 2009** Award ceremony

Pacific Islands Region

- March 7, 2009** Application form postmark deadline
- March 14, 2009** All supporting documents received at Kaimuki office
- April 25/26, 2009** Interview the semifinalists
- May 2, 2009** Announcement of the awardees
- May 17, 2009** Award ceremony

Midwest Region

- March 2, 2009** Application form postmark deadline
- March 10, 2009** Supporting documents due
- April 15, 2009** Finalize
- April 20, 2009** Announce recipients to Schools

Mid-Atlantic Region

- March 31, 2009** Application form postmark deadline
- April 5, 2009** Supporting documents due
- May 10, 2009** Finalize
- May 20, 2009** Announcement of scholars
- June 6, 2009** Award ceremony

Northeast Region

- March 13, 2009** Application deadline
- March 13, 2009** Supporting documents due
- May 01, 2009** Home Interview
- May 22, 2009** Announcement of scholars
- June 13, 2009** Award Ceremony



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Deadline for Tzu Chi Scholarship Application

Southern Region

March 31, 2009 **Application form postmark deadline**
April 15, 2009 **All supporting documents must be received**
May 20, 2009 **Finalize**
June 1, 2009 **Announcement of scholars**
June 20, 2009 **Award Ceremony**

Northwest Region

March 20, 2009 **Application Deadline**
April 5, 2009 **Supporting documents due**
May 28, 2009 **Announcement of scholars**
June 20 2009 **Award Ceremony**

Washington D. C. Region

March 31, 2009 **Application Dealing**
April 15, 2009 **Supporting Deadline**
May 15, 2009 **Finalize**
May 22, 2009 **Announcement of scholars**
June 6, 2009 **Award ceremony**

Central Region

March 20, 2009 **Application Deadline**
April 03, 2009 **Supporting documents due**
May 02, 2009 **Finalize**
May 30, 2009 **Announcement of scholars**
June 12, 2009 **Award Ceremony**