

Astrient Scholar Award Overview

Fall 2008 – Spring 2009 Academic Year

Introduction

The Astrient Scholar Award is a cash award designed to help students who demonstrate acumen or potential in the areas of social responsibility and entrepreneurship. In addition to having strong moral character and ethical integrity, Astrient Scholar Award recipients should possess an active interest in the application of technology and/or entrepreneurship to mitigate social problems.

Each academic year, the Foundation's selection committee selects up to four students as Astrient Scholars. The selection committee selects one to four students each academic year with one-half (1/2) of the award distributed in the fall semester and the remaining half of the award distributed in the spring semester.

The Astrient Scholar Award is open to all full-time students, who are rising sophomores, juniors or seniors enrolled at Ashesi University, Hampton University, North Carolina A&T State University, and Columbia University. Students must also be in good academic standing to be eligible for consideration.¹

The Application Process

Applicants complete and submit the Astrient Scholar Award Program application online via the Astrient Foundation's website. Using the Foundation's evaluation and rating software available on the Foundation's website, the selection committee will then review and rate each application. The Foundation will then consult the applicants' university to determine whether the applicants are in good academic standing. Upon receipt of such input, the Foundation will select up to four applicants as Scholar Award recipients.

To apply for the Scholar Award, applicants should:

- 1) Create an account on the Foundation's website, www.AstrientFoundation.org;
- 2) Select "Organizer" from the main menu;
- 3) Select "My Forms" from the side menu;
- 4) Select "Start a Form" located above the forms list;
- 5) Select the "Start This Form" link that pertains to the Scholar Award application for current academic semester; and,

¹ Family members and immediate relatives of the Astrient Foundation's board, committee members, advisors, or employees are not eligible for the Scholar Awards.

- 6) Type your answers into the form. If you are unable to complete the form in one sitting, you may save the form throughout the process by selecting "save" and return to it at a later time to complete it prior to the application deadline.
- 7) When you complete the form, select "submit." Once the application has been submitted, it will immediately be sent to the selection committee for review and you will no longer be able to edit it.

Once a form has been submitted, a copy of the form is saved in the applicant's account, and an email containing a copy of the form (as an attachment) is emailed to both the Foundation and the applicant.²

After the selection committee makes its determination, the Foundation will notify the Scholar Award recipients.

Minimum Application Requirements

Students who wish to apply for the Astrient Scholarship Award must satisfy all of the criteria below.

- 1) Minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;
- 2) Must be a full-time rising sophomore, junior or senior student, enrolled or accepted to Hampton University, Columbia University, North Carolina A &T, or Ashesi University; and
- 3) Must not be a relative of, or affiliated with, any member of the selection committee.

² Submitted forms are reviewed through the website using the following steps.

- 1) Select the "Web Forms" feature from the "administration" screen,
- 2) Select the form name from the list of forms and
- 3) Select the "View Inbox" button located at the bottom of the form details.

The form inbox lists all of the forms and/or applications that have been submitted. Once submitted these document(s) can be reviewed, rated, and discussed from the form inbox screen. Also, by selecting the applicant's username, the biographical details of the applicant will display.