



The New Canaan Community Foundation
Anne and Anthony Sapienza Scholarship

Application Guidelines and Instructions, 2012

Purpose: The purpose of this Program is to provide scholarships to support the educational costs of eligible New Canaan residents based on the criteria listed below.

Application Process: An application and recommendation forms can be obtained from our web site (www.newcanaancf.org), by calling or emailing the NCCF office at 966-0231 or info@newcanaancf.org or from the guidance or college placement offices at the local high schools.

All applicants must:

1. Submit a completed and signed application form by the deadline
2. Provide financial need documentation with the completed Student Aid Report (SAR) from FAFSA which reflects both parents' income, and must include the EFC (Expected Family Contribution), and other relevant financial information requested by the Committee.

New applicants must also:

1. Provide a personal statement as described in the instructions;
2. Provide 2 completed reference forms or letters of reference (one recommendation must be from a teacher);

Returning applicants are not guaranteed to receive renewed funding, and their application will be considered with all applicants; they must:

1. Have maintained a minimum 2.50 cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) in their coursework;
2. Submit an official transcript and updated Student Aid Report;
3. Complete the application and describe their school-year and summer employment, why they still need the scholarship, report both parents' income, and tell us if anything has changed since the last application.

Application Deadline: 5 PM on April 2, 2012

Scholarship Selection Process: The Scholarship Committee of the New Canaan Community Foundation reviews all applications for the Anne and Anthony Sapienza Scholarship Program. All applications are presented to the committee anonymously. All applicants must:

- Maintain his or her current official residence in the town of New Canaan, Connecticut;
- Attend a not-for-profit school or educational organization;
- Demonstrate to the committee a financial condition that limits the applicant in pursuing his or her educational goals;
- Complete and submit an application by the deadline.

All applicants will be selected using the following criteria:

- Financial need
- Community Involvement
- Academic Achievements
- Personal Statement
- Strength of recommendations

Scholarship Award: All awards are made directly to the school or educational institution. The educational organization must be a qualified 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. Any unused monies shall be refunded to the New Canaan Community Foundation for return to the Program. All awards are subject to the approval of the NCCF Board of Directors. The applicant's name is no longer confidential at the time of the Board of Directors' approval. The recipient's name will be used in publicity of the Program, unless otherwise agreed upon by the recipient and the Community Foundation.

Additional Award

NCCF also administers the Joseph F. Dorrico Rotary Award Fund, established in memory of New Canaan's former postmaster. This award honors Mr. Dorrico's loyal service to the community, both professionally and as a volunteer. The Program, in cooperation with the Rotary Club of New Canaan, will make an award to support the educational needs of a New Canaan resident who has demonstrated a similar loyalty to the community through his/her volunteer service and who also has demonstrated need for financial assistance in pursuing his/her education. Eligibility for this scholarship award is not limited to a graduating high school senior. Applicants interested in applying for this award must submit the Sapienza Scholarship forms by April 2nd and include a brief statement in the appropriate section of the application. Recipients of this award will receive a scholarship grant of approximately \$750 to \$1,000.

Instructions for the Application

1. Applications should be typed or neatly hand printed in ink.
2. An official school transcript is required. If you have been out of school for a length of time that makes this difficult, a copy of your final transcript will be accepted.
3. Two completed recommendation forms are required. These references in support of your application must be forwarded by the person completing the form directly to the New Canaan Community Foundation. If you are currently enrolled as a student, one letter must be from a current teacher. The second reference should be from an adult outside of school, who knows you in a professional capacity, not from a family member. If you have not been enrolled in school for the past 3 years, please submit two reference forms from adults in the community

who know you well. Please use the reference form included with this application, or a letter of recommendation.

4. You must submit a copy of your Student Aid report (SAR) compiled from your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Form (www.fafsa.ed.gov). For those applicants for whom a FAFSA form is not relevant, determination of financial need will be made from the applicant's most recent Federal Income tax returns.
5. Your Personal Statement must be submitted on a separate page and must include your plans as they relate to your educational and career objectives and future goals. Please include a description of your leadership and community service involvement. Please limit your essay to 500 words. The essay should be typed.
6. Completed applications must be received by 5pm on April 2nd. Send completed application to the address below, or drop them off at the Foundation's office during regular business hours.

New Canaan Community Foundation
111 Cherry Street
New Canaan CT 06840

7. Your application for a scholarship becomes complete and valid only when you have returned all of the following materials by the application deadline:
 - Application, signed and dated
 - Academic Transcript
 - Personal Statement
 - 2 Recommendation Forms (to be submitted separately by your reference)
 - Complete SAR (Student Aid Report) with your EFC (Expected Family Contribution) based on both parents' income, from FAFSA form or other financial information as requested by the NCCF Scholarship Committee.

Students who receive a scholarship award may send thank you notes to the scholarship committee by mailing them to the Foundation office at 111 Cherry Street, New Canaan, CT 06840.

If you have any questions, or need to speak to someone at the Foundation, please call the office at (203) 966-0231.