

# Application Materials

**IMPORTANT:** Retain a copy for your records after completing application.

**Deadline for application materials to be received:**

**April 1st**

# Eligibility

* Minimum of two years of full-time service at the Walt Disney World Resort in the character department at any of the Orlando resorts or two years as a casual regular employee. Or the dependent of an employee that meets the employment criteria.
* Responsible for providing proof of a minimum of two year of full-time service at Walt Disney World Resort in the character department. We will accept proof from Walt Disney World HR department, pay check stubs, or references from two fellow employees known to Board Members.
* Acceptance to a post-secondary institution eligible to award what is known as “Title IV Financial Aid” or more simply federal financial aid (FAFSA). For a listing please visit <https://www.finaid.org/fafsa/tiv.phtml>.
* Receipt of all materials by the application deadline.
* Additional consideration is given to applicants majoring in education, health professions and social services. Any applicant majoring in the creative arts will automatically be eligible to be considered for the *Sheldon Pickney Scholarship for the Creative Arts*.
* Scholarship awards are based on a combination of factors including interview, essay, GPA

and academic as well as career goals. Awards are competitive and limited. Applicants are encouraged to apply each year regardless of outcome.

# Scholarship Application Materials

* Completed scholarship application
* Current, official transcripts from your current college or university; or high school transcript*.* Transcripts may be sent electronically.If the applicant has been out of high school five years or more, and there has been no post-secondary institution enrollment, please submit two personal references in lieu of high school and post-secondary transcripts.
* Employment verification from the Walt Disney World Company®**,** *(employment verifications received from other than Walt Disney World Company® will not be accepted, the only exception is the submission of references in lieu of verification).* Dependent must submit employment verification of their legal guardian.
* Personal essay (**no more** than two double-spaced pages, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins all-around, please use MS Word) addressing the following: area of study, why the area of study was chosen, career goals, how the applicant’s experience in the Character department lead to personal development, and how that personal development will help the applicant be successful in her/his anticipated career. Dependents of cast members should address area of study, why the area of study was chosen and career goals.
* Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

# Scholarship Award Fine Print

* Scholarship criterion is subject to change.
* Award funds are only guaranteed for the amount awarded by the committee. These are one-time awards. Applicants and recipients are required to apply each year. Annual amounts may vary.
* Preference is given to a current or former cast member of the Walt Disney World® Character department.
* The scholarship committee reserves the right to disqualify any candidate for misrepresentation of self on the application.
* Scholarship disbursement is directly to the institution; therefore, it is up to the recipient to maintain contact with the Foundation to ensure proper process of funds for fall and spring semesters.
* If recipient enrolls in the summer, the **scholarship cannot** be disbursed for summer enrollment.
* Recipients are **required to provide official proof of enrollment** after the drop/add period of each term. Failure to do so will result in loss of funds for next term.

# Application procedure

Completed application **may be submitted electronically to** scholarship@area3foundation.org

Transcript must be sent from high school or institution, please request it be sent to scholarship@area3foundation.org. If providing personal references in lieu of transcripts, reference contact information must also be provided. Employment verification must be verifiable through a paycheck stub or other means of verification. If documents are received from alternate locations application will be considered incomplete and not eligible for review.

***Please note that former Character department cast members have priority over dependents of employees.***

#  Notification

We will notify the recipients in writing as well as through a phone call. Certificates will be mailed to the permanent address that is specified on the Area 3 Foundation application. It is the responsibility of the applicant to notify the Area 3 Foundation of any change to the permanent address. Applicants who have not received notification by June 1 are invited to email the Foundation to check their status.

After selection, recipient must complete and return the acceptance form by the date specified on the notification letter. Failure to return the acceptance form by the specified date will result in forfeiture of the award. If an award is forfeited, it will be awarded to the next eligible applicant.

# Award disbursement

Scholarship awards will be made in two disbursements; the first at the start of the first semester or quarter, the second at the start of the second semester or quarter but only after enrollment verification is received. Awards are not disbursed for summer term enrollment.

# Applicants and recipients may be asked for an interview, photo or to attend events sponsored by the Area 3 Foundation.

**Area 3 Foundation Scholarship Application**

This form, with applicant’s original ink signature and supporting application materials must be received by the A3 Scholarship Foundation office by April 1st. **Application files that are incomplete after the application deadline will not be reviewed – no exceptions.**

***Please type or print.***

MM/YYYY **to** MM/YYYY

**Employment dates in Entertainment (self or parent):**

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**Name:**

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**Name of Parent/Guardian, if applicable:**

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**Address:**

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**Telephone:**

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**Email:**

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**Program of Study:**

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**Name of Institution:**

**I certify that I have read and understand the information provided. The information I am supplying on this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief, I am eligible to be considered for this scholarship award.**

**Applicant Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Please submit essay separately.