

# Application Materials

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

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

**April 8th**

# 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 immediate family member of a cast member who meets the criteria (applicant is the dependent, grandchild, niece, or nephew of a cast member).
* Responsible for providing proof of a minimum of two years of full-time service at Walt Disney World Resort in the character department. We will accept proof from the Walt Disney World HR department, paycheck stubs, or references from two fellow employees known to Board Members.
* Acceptance to a federal financial aid, degree or certificate awarding, post-secondary institution.
* 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 for the Sheldon Pickney Scholarship for the Creative Arts.
* Scholarships are competitive and are based on a strong essay, commitment to community, and academic achievement.
* Applicants are encouraged to apply each year regardless of the outcome.
* 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.
* Scholarship criterion is subject to change.
* Preference is given to a current or former cast member of the Walt Disney World® Character department.
* Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
* The scholarship committee reserves the right to disqualify any candidate for misrepresentation of self on the application.
* Recipients are required to provide official proof of enrollment after the drop/add each term. Failure to do so will result in a loss of funds for the next term.

# Scholarship Application Materials

* Completed scholarship application
* Current, official *(not a photocopy)* transcripts **sent directly from the applicant’s post-secondary institution** *(transcripts received from other than an institution will not be accepted, no exceptions)* or high school transcript*.* If the applicant has been out of high school for five years or more, and there has been no post-secondary institution enrollment, please submit two personal references instead of high school and post-secondary transcripts. Transcripts can be sent to [scholarship@area3foundation.org](mailto:scholarship@area3foundation.org)
* 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 instead of verification).* Children must submit employee verification of their parents.
* Personal essay (**no more** than two double-spaced pages, 12-point Times New Roman font, one-inch margins all-around) 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. Children of cast members should address their area of study, why the area of study was chosen, and career goals.

# Application procedure

The completed application **may be submitted electronically to** [scholarship@area3foundation.org](mailto:scholarship@area3foundation.org).

Once your materials are submitted, you will receive an email confirmation; if you do not receive an email please check spam/junk. It is your responsibility to ensure your application is complete and all ancillary documents have been received.

Transcripts may be e-mailed directly from high school and/or post-secondary institutions using a transcript service. If providing personal references instead 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.

# Notification

Notification letters will be emailed to the 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 email address. Applicants who have not received notification by June 1 are invited to email the Foundation to check their status.

After selection, the recipient must complete and return the acceptance form by the date specified in 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.

**Area 3 Foundation Scholarship Application**

This form, with the 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:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Parent, if applicable:**

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**Address:**

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**Telephone:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**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.