



## **Just Athlete Scholarship 2021-2022**

### **Sports in Schools Mission**

To improve the lives of under resourced youth by increasing access and opportunities to sports in their schools.

### **Sports in Schools Just Athlete Scholarship Mission**

To recognize, uplift and celebrate Washington state high school senior athletes for their race and social justice efforts.

### **Background**

Since 2009, Sports In Schools has existed to support marginalized schools and address the disparities in school-based athletics. To date, we have partnered with dozens of schools, impacting thousands of students, and provided more than \$1,000,000 worth of resources. Civil unrest around race and social justice issues persists and there is a heightened awareness during these unprecedented times, especially in our black and brown communities. We at Sports in Schools have felt compelled to do more. In 2020, we launched a scholarship program called, **Just Athlete** and provided two \$2,000 scholarships to two very deserving youth.

### **Why Just Athlete?**

Among many stigmas that exist in black and brown communities, is the stigma that athletics is a primary path to college and beyond. However, according to the NCAA, the reality is that only 2% of high school athletes are awarded some form of athletic scholarship to compete in and attend college.

We know the path to success for black and brown student-athletes has many routes, and that they are far more than **just** athletes. They are amazing young people who, among other things are participating in creating a **just** world through the ways they embody and are involved in race and social justice efforts in their schools and communities. We want to elevate and celebrate their efforts and recognize the importance of their work around race and social justice.

**In 2021-2022 we will again recognize two senior student-athletes with a \$2,000 scholarship each to be used toward their post-secondary education.**



## Scholarship Eligibility

- Must be a Senior at a high school in the state of Washington.
- Must be a participant, for at least one year, in any sport(s). This includes managers and athletic trainer interns and non-traditional school athletics.
- Must be involved with or have participated in a race and social justice effort in school or community at-large.
- Must plan to attend a post-secondary institution (2 or 4-year college, university, or vocational/technical school) within 2 years of graduating high school.

## Application Process

Applicant must submit an Essay and 2 Letters of Recommendation by 2/28/2022.

- **Essay Requirement** (not-to-exceed 500-words) for each of the following:
  1. What has high school sports taught you about yourself?
  2. What way(s) have you engaged in race and/or social justice efforts in your school and/or community?
  3. Pick ONE of the following questions to answer?
    - a. What aspects of race and social justice are most important to you and why?
    - b. How would you describe your commitment to anti-racism?

**Applicants can complete their application and essay requirement electronically by going to: <https://tinyurl.com/Scholarship2022>.**

- *Applicants may choose to type or handwrite the essay answering the questions above. If choosing to type or handwrite please include your full name, school, sport(s), phone number, and email in the heading of the essay. If typed, essays should be 12-pt font and double-spaced. If you do not have computer, internet, or printer access, we will accept handwritten essays or texted photos of handwritten pages but please write legibly.*



- **Letters of Recommendation (LOR) Requirement**

**Two** letters of recommendations which can be from:

- **a coach\***
- **a race & social justice program advisor\***
- a teacher, and/or other adult mentor in your life.

***LOR's from those marked above with an \* are preferred.***

There are 3 different ways Letters of Recommendation may be submitted.

1) **You can provide the LINK BELOW to individuals and ask them to complete the online form it takes them to. This is likely the easiest method for submitters.**

<https://tinyurl.com/LOR-Form-2022>

2) **Individuals can write their own Letter of Recommendation** by sending an email or a word document and providing whatever details and information they would like to share with us about their connection to you and why they are recommending you for this scholarship. They should **submit** these personal Letters of Recommendation **by email to [Christina@sportsinschools.org](mailto:Christina@sportsinschools.org) by 2/28/2022.**

3) You can provide the link below which will give them a PDF document to print, complete and return by email to [Christina@sportsinschools.org](mailto:Christina@sportsinschools.org).

<https://tinyurl.com/LOR-PDF-2022>

Please note that **TWO DIFFERENT LOR's are required and they must be received by 2/28/2022.** Please ensure the individuals you ask are able to meet that deadline.

**If you have any questions about LOR's please email [Christina@sportsinschools.org](mailto:Christina@sportsinschools.org) or call or text her at 510-710-1731.**



Only complete applications (Essay plus 2 Letters of Recommendation) submitted by **11:59pm Pacific Standard Time on February 28, 2022** will be considered.

Note: If you do not have a phone, computer, internet, or printer access, you can also mail handwritten essays and LOR's to us or submit to your school AD for mailing with a postmark before the deadline. Our mailing address is:

**Sports In Schools  
1211 E. Denny Way, Box B1  
Seattle, WA 98122**

If selected to be interviewed, the applicant will have an in-person or virtual 30-minute interview with SIS Program Committee members.

If selected, the "Just Athlete" awardee is requested to attend our SIS annual fundraiser. The date is not set yet but will likely be mid-April 2022. Awardee will be able to invite two family members and one coach as honorary guests. If unable to attend in-person, attending virtually will be an option.

If selected, funds will be disbursed via reimbursement. Awardee must submit receipt(s) and proof of enrollment. Multiple receipts can be submitted throughout Awardee's first year of school. SIS will reimburse up to \$2000 max of school-related expenses including but not limited to: tuition, books, room & board, equipment (laptop, laptop accessories, book bag, etc.).

**Timeline:**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Application Released	October 15, 2021
Application Deadline	February 28, 2022
Interviews	March 1 – March 25 2022
Notification	March 31, 2022
SIS Annual Fundraiser and Awards Ceremony	TBD but likely late April 2022
Funds released	Reimbursed within 1st year

**If you have any questions, please contact Program Director, Christina Broadwin @ [christina@sportsinschools.org](mailto:christina@sportsinschools.org) or by mobile phone at 510-710-1731.**