

**Georgia Head Start Association
Scholarship Criteria**

Margo Sommers Head Start Student Scholarship Award

Eligibility Criteria

- A. To be eligible for this scholarship, only former Head Start students who have been enrolled in a Head Start program in the state of Georgia will be considered.
- B. The student must be a high school senior scheduled to graduate on schedule.
- C. All scholarship applications must be received by March ²⁵~~31~~, 2026. @ Head Start
- D. Former Head Start students must provide information concerning the date they were enrolled in Head Start and the name/address of the program in which they were enrolled.
- E. The GHSA will award only one \$1,500.00 Student Scholarship annually.
- F. The student will qualify even if he or she receives other scholarships or monetary awards.
- G. The scholarship will be given for one year only. Winners are not eligible to reapply.
- H. Scholarships presentations will be made at the annual GHSA Spring Conference.
- I. Head Start Programs are not limited to the number of nominations they can submit for scholarships.
- J. The GHSA is not responsible for travel arrangements or costs for the winner(s) to attend the Spring Conference or to receive the award. Head Start Programs must agree to assist nominees in arrangements to the Spring Conference.
- K. The scholarship award will be paid directly to the institution after verification of enrollment and accreditation status.
- L. All submitted material will be the property of GHSA and will not be returned.

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Nomination Entry Form

Student's Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Cell phone: _____ e-mail: _____
Date of Birth: _____
Year(s) attending Head Start: _____

Head Start Program: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
e-mail: _____
Director's Name: _____

Head Start Director's Signature: _____ Date _____

If this form is not used, please include **all information** requested on this form on the first page of the application submitted.

Attach up to **three** pages that describes the following five criteria. Information should be on pages that are letter size (8 1/2" x 11"), typed, and single lined with name appearing on all pages. Applicant can submit up to **five** pages of support documentation that includes support letters from the Head Start Program, community organizations, or school, transcript of grades, certificate of trainings, and/or newspaper articles. Do not submit video material. Please ensure that name appears on all submitted attachments. The application should not exceed number of pages requested. Attachments are **not required** but help the judges in scoring. Highest possible score is 100 points.]

1. Typed written essay on "*Why I Should Receive the Head Start Scholarship.*" Essay should be between 500-1,000 words. Essay will be evaluated on format, grammar, topic content, and flow. *[30 points]*
2. Student's educational goals, college plans, and aspirations. *[10 points]*
3. Student's participation in school extra curricular activities and level of involvement (sports, clubs, student council, offices held, etc.) *[15 points]*
4. Student's participation in community activities and/or faith based organizations. *[15 points]*
5. Current GPA *[3.5 - 4.0 = 15 points; 3.0 - 3.4 = 10 points; below 2.9 = 5 points]*
6. The need for financial assistance or hardships encountered. *[15 points]*