



Jeffrey Bardsley Continuing Education Scholarship Program Guidelines

We are proud to offer the Jeffrey Bardsley Continuing Education Scholarship for individuals with MPS or ML. Jeffrey's family believes that having an MPS or ML syndrome need not limit an individual's educational or vocational aspirations. The scholarship of up to \$5,000 annually is intended to assist motivated, achieving individuals to acquire the further education or training needed to reach their goals. The following information outlines the scholarship program.

Please note: The National MPS Society recognizes the unique learning needs of some of our applicants. If you need any assistance in completing this application or require accommodations for this process, please contact Leslie Urdaneta, Family Program Director, at least 2 weeks prior to the deadline at 919-806-0101 or leslie@mpssociety.org.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Member of the National MPS Society (membership may be included with Parent or Legal Guardian if applicant is a dependent).
- U.S. citizen or legal U.S. Resident.
- Individual with MPS or ML with a high school diploma or its equivalent or who is a graduating senior.
- Individual with MPS or ML pursuing continued education at a college, university, a professional/trade school or an alternative continuing education program.
- Copy of letter of acceptance from the college, university, school or program is required to receive the scholarship payment or copy of official transcript required for applicants currently enrolled in continuing education program. If currently enrolled in a continuing education program, a GPA of 2.5 or higher is required.

Process:

- 1) Only eligible applicants will be considered for funding.
- 2) By making application, the applicant agrees to allow the Society to publicize the scholarship applicant's name and general information, such as hometown, institution attending, goals and aspirations, and specific syndrome if selected for funding. Applicant will be required to submit a brief biography to be used in Courage.
- 3) Scholarships are awarded one time each year.
- 4) Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. EST on **Sunday, March 7, 2021**. Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.
- 5) All required documentation (*the application, essay, and letter of recommendation*) must be received prior to the application being reviewed. During the application process, you will be asked to enter the contact information for your reference. Your reference will receive an email with specific directions on how to upload your letter of recommendation into the application system, which must be completed by 11:59 p.m. EST on **Monday, March 22, 2021**. Your required letter of recommendation cannot be from a relative. An optional second letter of recommendation can be from a family member or anyone else.
- 6) Previous scholarship recipients may reapply for a scholarship by submitting the scholarship application and maintaining a 2.5 or higher GPA. The Society hopes to continue to provide the scholarship to previous recipients until the undergraduate or vocational program is concluded. Each year's funding, however, is reviewed on an individual basis and continued funding for the duration of the educational program is likely but not guaranteed.

- 7) The Society will issue a letter to the applicant indicating a funding decision on or before May 15th.
- 8) Once awarded the scholarship, applicant must submit an official transcript to verify 2.5 GPA. Funding will not occur until official transcript, proof of attendance, and payment release form have been submitted.
- 9) Funding will be paid directly to the attending school. Scholarship recipient must provide the Society with an acceptance letter or proof of attendance and the name and address of the office where the scholarship is to be sent. Payment release request must be made no later than September 1.
- 10) The Jeffrey Bardsley scholarship recipient will be provided an opportunity to secure a recurring annual scholarship of \$5,000 per year. Scholarship recipient will be required to submit an official transcript to verify 2.5 GPA or higher, letter to the Bardsley family, and a letter of reference from a current instructor, teacher, or professor. To award recurring funds, this information must be provided by February 15. Recurring funds are not a guarantee.

Application Review

- 1) Only complete applications will be reviewed.
- 2) All applications for funds will be reviewed and evaluated by the Family Support Committee as well as any individuals it designates.
- 3) A check will be written to the institution referencing the selected applicant's name. Payment Release must be received no later than **September 1** or the scholarship will be forfeited. Special circumstances may be considered with advance written request.
- 4) The Family Support Committee's interpretation of the regulations outlining the Continuing Education Scholarship Program and any decisions, including appeals, made by the Committee are binding. The applicant has the right to appeal the Committee's final decision. Appeals can be made to the Board of Directors in writing and must be made within 60 days. The appeal will be reviewed at the next Board meeting.
- 5) All applications will be evaluated by the Family Support Committee using essay, career goals/dreams/aspirations, personal recommendation, Society and Community involvement, and grammar, neatness and spelling as guidelines.

For questions or if you need assistance completing the application, please contact Leslie Urdaneta, Program Director, at (919) 806-0101 or leslie@mpssociety.org.