



## Klenke-Kirch Continuing Education Sibling Scholarship Program Guidelines – 2024

We proudly offer the Klenke-Kirch Continuing Education Scholarship for siblings of individuals with MPS or ML. The Klenke and Kirch families recognize Chelsey Klenke Robertson and Helen Kirch's accomplishments and contributions in establishing and supporting resources for siblings. A scholarship of \$500 annually will be awarded to up to two siblings who are also awarded a \$1,000 National MPS Society Continuing Education Scholarship. It is intended to encourage siblings to reach their educational goals and strengthen programs offered to other siblings throughout the year. The following information outlines the scholarship program.

### Scholarship Requirement

Recipients of this scholarship are required to assist in establishing sibling activities at the National MPS Society's Annual Family Conference. As an additional award within this program, recipients will receive travel, lodging, and registration funding to attend the Annual Family Conference and facilitate sibling activities.

***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 Angela Guajardo at least **two weeks** prior to the deadline at 919-806-0101 or [angela@mpssociety.org](mailto:angela@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.
- Sibling of an individual with MPS or ML with a high school diploma or its equivalent or who is a graduating senior.
- Sibling of an individual with MPS or ML pursuing continued education at a college, university, professional/trade school, or an alternative continuing education program.
- A copy of an acceptance letter from the college, university, school, or program is required to receive the scholarship payment or a copy of the official transcript is required for applicants currently enrolled in a continuing education program. A GPA of 2.5 or higher is required if enrolled in a continuing education program.

### Process:

- 1) Only eligible applicants will be considered for funding.
- 2) By applying, 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. Applicants must submit a brief biography to be used in Courage and other Society publications.
- 3) Scholarships are awarded one time each year.
- 4) Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. EST on **Monday, March 11, 2024**. 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 25, 2024**. Your required letter(s) of recommendation cannot be from a relative.

- 6) Previous scholarship recipients may reapply for a scholarship by submitting the scholarship application and maintaining a 2.5 or higher GPA. Evaluation of sibling program involvement will be considered, and recipients may be offered funding for a subsequent year. Each year's funding, however, is reviewed on an individual basis and continued funding is not guaranteed. The Klenke-Kirch Continuing Education Sibling Scholarship is intended to be awarded as an additional \$500.00 to a Continuing Education Scholarship recipient.
- 7) Recipients are expected to attend the National MPS Society's Annual Family Conference and assist in developing and facilitating activities for siblings.
- 8) The Society will issue a letter to the applicant indicating a funding decision on or before May 15th.
- 9) Once awarded the scholarship, the applicant must submit an official transcript to verify a 2.5 GPA. Funding will not occur until the official transcript, proof of attendance, and payment release form have been submitted.
- 10) Funding will be paid directly to the attending school. Scholarship recipients 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 requests must be made no later than September 1.
- 11) The Klenke-Kirch scholarship recipients may be allowed to secure a second recurring scholarship of \$500 per year. The scholarship recipients will be required to submit an official transcript to verify a 2.5 GPA or higher, a letter summarizing involvement with siblings, 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 Angela Guajardo, Controller, at (919) 806-0101 or [angela@mpsociety.org](mailto:angela@mpsociety.org).***