



Major the Polar Bear Scholarship

About This Scholarship

The "Major, The Polar Bear Scholarship" is a \$1,000 award that is given annually with support from the Salem 5 Foundation in June to a deserving Massachusetts high school senior who will continue his/her education in an animal or environmental related field and has documented community service. The first scholarship was awarded in 2001 to a deserving student from Malden.

The scholarship originated as a tribute to Major, the beloved Polar Bear of the Stone Zoo who was passed away in June 2000 after a long bout with cancer. Major had been the star attraction since his arrival at the Stone Zoo in 1975. He weighed about 900 pounds stood over 8 feet tall and lived to be 33 years old – the oldest known polar bear in captivity. In addition to entertaining generations of families for more than 2 decades, Major was the "poster bear" that galvanized the community to successfully fight for the reopening of the Stone Zoo after its brief closure in the early 1990s.

Filling Out the Application

This application contains 4 sections, each of which must be completed in full. *We require the application to be typewritten in a 12pt font size.*

It may be helpful to you to copy and paste the text from the following pages into word processing software, such as Microsoft Word, so that you can easily keep track of the content and ensure that you have all of the elements completed.

Once completed, mail the application and accompanying references and other documents by May 26th to:

The National Coalition for Educational and Cultural Programs, Inc.
PO Box 80255, Stoneham, MA 02180



I. Applicant Information

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Street Address _____

City/Town _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

High School _____ Graduation Year _____

Field in which you wish to continue your education: _____

II. Institution/College Information

I plan to attend:

Institution Name _____

Address _____

Contact Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____



III. Essay Component

Part I

Tell us in great detail about what you have done for community service work. For each example of community service work, list what it was, where and when you performed it and what you learned from that experience. *(1/2 to 1 page)*

Part II

Describe your planned course of study in college. What are your goals for after graduation? What will your first steps be to attain those goals? *(1-2 paragraphs)*

Part III

Everyone has assets and strengths, which are often visible through your accomplishments. Tell us about one of your proudest accomplishments. What personal strengths and skills did you use? *(1-2 paragraphs)*

Part IV

Every aspect of you, your situation, your history and experience can be used to your advantage in college and in your career. Tell us anything else we should know about you when reviewing your application. *(1-2 paragraphs)*

IV. Required Attachments

Please provide the following attachments:

- Proof of status as a graduating senior
- Proof of community service
- One reference *from each* of the following:
 - 1) Teacher or guidance counselor from the high school the applicant is graduating from
 - 2) Supervisor that oversaw the applicant's community service work, *and*
 - 3) Former employer

For each reference, list their name, title, email, phone and fax #, as well as mailing address.

- Proof of college acceptance