

August 1, 2017

Dear College Counselor,

We would like to invite students from your school to apply for the South Dakota Scholarship Program.

Since 1984, the Horatio Alger Association has awarded over \$125 million in college scholarships to deserving students. Through nationally recognized educational programs, the Association reaches out directly to our nation's young people with a message of hope, opportunity, responsibility, and perseverance.

In keeping with the mission of the Horatio Alger Association, the scholarship programs provide financial assistance to students throughout the nation who have significant financial need and have exhibited integrity and perseverance in overcoming personal adversity. The scholarships are given to deserving students each year and range in award value from \$6,000 to \$25,000.

**Eligibility criteria include: high school graduation in spring/summer, demonstrated critical financial need (\$55,000 or lower adjusted gross family income), and United States citizenship.**

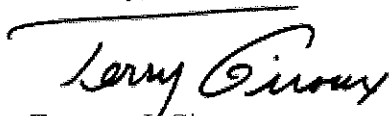
We ask that you place the enclosed poster in a prominent location at your school to let students know about the Horatio Alger Scholarship Programs. Students may apply online August 1 – October 25 at [scholars.horatioalger.org](http://scholars.horatioalger.org).

**IMPORTANT: In order for an application to be considered complete the applicant's counselor must complete a Certifications Form online. See page two of this letter for additional details.**

**Please add [scholarships@horatioalger.org](mailto:scholarships@horatioalger.org) to your safe mail list.**

We look forward to receiving applications from your students as we seek to recognize outstanding young people.

Sincerely,



Terrence J. Giroux  
Executive Director

## HORATIO ALGER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION

The Horatio Alger Association seeks to assist students who have demonstrated integrity, perseverance in overcoming adversity, strength of character, financial need, a good academic record, commitment to pursue a college education, and a desire to contribute to society.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

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To be considered eligible for Horatio Alger National and South Dakota Scholarship Programs, applicants must:

- Currently be a resident of and attend high school in the State of South Dakota
- Be enrolled full-time as a high school senior in the United States, progressing normally toward graduation in spring/summer with plans to enter a college in the United States no later than the fall following graduation
- Exhibit a strong commitment to pursue and complete a bachelor's degree at an accredited non-profit public or private institution in the United States (students may start their studies at a two-year institution and then transfer to a four-year institution)
- Demonstrate critical financial need (**\$55,000 or lower adjusted gross family income is required**)
- Be involved in co-curricular and community service activities
- Display integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity
- Maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0
- Be a United States citizen

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

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To apply for the Horatio Alger Scholarship Programs, the following items must be completed by **October 25**:

- An online application at [scholars.horatioalger.org](http://scholars.horatioalger.org)
- One Support Form completed online. This must be completed by an adult over the age of 21 who is not related to the applicant and who is aware of the adversities mentioned in the application. **This form must be filled out online. Faxes, emails, or letters will not be accepted.**
- Online Certification Form. A login will be emailed to the applicant's counselor.
- High school transcript. Applicants should upload a transcript through the application. **Transcripts must be submitted online.**
- Income Verification. A copy of **the first page** of the applicant's parent(s) federal tax return (1040, 1040A, 1040 EZ or 1099 SSA-Social Security form) or tax transcript (request a tax transcript here [www.irs.gov/Individuals/Order-a-Transcript](http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Order-a-Transcript)) from 2016 is needed in order to verify income stated on the application. If an applicant's parents were not required to file a tax return, include statement copies of any government benefits, such as Public Assistance or Disability payment documents. Income verifications may be uploaded online or sent by mail. Applicants of divorced or legally separated parents need to submit tax forms from both parents. **No emails or faxes accepted.**

# ONE SCHOLARSHIP ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

RECEIVE

UP TO

**\$25,000**

FOR

COLLEGE WITH

THE HORATIO ALGER

SOUTH DAKOTA

SCHOLARSHIP

If integrity, determination, and courage describe you - you have what it takes to be a Horatio Alger Scholar. Our scholarships reward students who possess the character to succeed in life. We help students overcome the financial barriers of pursuing higher education. To qualify, you must have at least a 2.0 GPA and require financial assistance to attend college. To learn more and apply, visit [scholars.horatioalger.org](http://scholars.horatioalger.org).

**The eligibility criteria to be considered for Horatio Alger National and State Scholarships are as follows:**

- Be enrolled full-time as a high school senior in the United States with plans to enter college no later than the Fall semester following graduation
- Exhibit a strong commitment to pursue and complete a **bachelor's degree** at an accredited non-profit public or private institution in the United States (students may start their studies at a two-year institution and then transfer to a four-year institution)
- Demonstrate critical financial need (\$55,000 or lower adjusted gross family income is required)
- Be involved in co-curricular and community service activities
- Display integrity and perseverance in overcoming adversity
- Hold a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0
- Be a United States citizen

**Application Deadline: October 25**

HORATIO  
ALGER  
ASSOCIATION