

# **CHRISTIAN A. HERTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**2012 APPLICATION**

**APPLICATION DUE DATE: MARCH 1, 2012**



**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**454 BROADWAY, SUITE 200  
REVERE, MASSACHUSETTS 02151  
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**<http://www.osfa.mass.edu>**

**The Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship Program** provides financial assistance to Commonwealth of Massachusetts students who demonstrate academic promise and aspirations for higher education. The special role of the Christian A. Herter Scholarship, as an early identification program, is to recruit high school sophomores and juniors whose socio-economic backgrounds and environmental conditions may inhibit their ability to persevere and attain their educational goals.

Since 1972, the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship has assisted Massachusetts students with their higher education costs. Each year, twenty-five students are selected as Herter Scholarship recipients. Herter scholars may receive awards of **up to fifty percent (50%)** of their calculated financial need for study at a college or university of their choice. Scholarships are awarded for a maximum of four years, and are subject to annual appropriations from the Massachusetts Legislature.

**Who is an eligible applicant for the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship?**

Any current high school Sophomore or Junior meeting the following qualifications:

- Enrolled in a public or private secondary school in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen and is a permanent legal resident of Massachusetts
- Nominated by a sponsoring school or agency
- Has a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- Demonstrates difficult personal circumstances, high financial need, and strong academic promise to continue his or her education beyond high school, at a college or university

**What criteria are used in evaluating the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship applications?**

Eligibility is based on achievements in many areas. Students are required to submit an essay describing their future goals and aspirations. Applicants must also demonstrate hardships/obstacles overcome and accomplishments in the following areas: 1) Special Skills 2) Leadership Qualities 3) Relative Maturity 4) Personal Difficulties 5) Motivation 6) Enthusiasm 7) Capacity for Growth 8) Academic Promise 9) Community Outreach and Involvement.

**What restrictions are there on the use of the Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship?**

Recipients may use the scholarship for college related costs only. Such costs may include tuition, fees, room and board, at an accredited postsecondary institution within the United States. The Herter recipient must commence enrollment in a postsecondary institution immediately upon graduation from high school, or permanently forfeit receipt of such a scholarship. A Herter Scholarship recipient who, due to extreme circumstances, has to postpone college enrollment upon graduating from high school, may apply for a deferment of his/her scholarship for a period of not more than two (2) years.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

All information requested on the Herter Application Form must be provided. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

**1. The Nominee's Autobiographical Essay:** Each applicant must submit a signed essay, not to exceed two single-spaced pages. The essay will play a significant role in the selection process. Your essay should address the following:

**Leadership Qualities:** Inspiring or directing others; becoming a role model for your peers. Evidence of leadership qualities can be drawn from personal or academic experiences, including extra-curricular activities.

**Obstacles Overcome/Challenges:** Achieving a goal despite barriers or challenges that has given you the determination to persevere. Include personal difficulties, hardships, medical problems, whether personal or family related that have directly affected your academic life.

**Achievements:** Special skills and talents, creative or challenging activities that you have accomplished in your personal or academic life, such as artistic talent, public speaking and scientific or mathematical aptitude.

**Community Outreach:** Volunteer work performed that has benefited others such as the elderly, not for profit groups or agencies, schools, hospitals or community service agencies.

**2. The Supporting Financial Statement:** This must be submitted by the applicant to determine his/her eligibility for financial assistance. The financial information must include a copy of the parent as well as the student's 2011 Federal and State income tax returns. If the parent will not file a 2011 tax return, a signed statement must accompany the application, along with official documentation to support income source (i.e. social security, public assistance, etc.) and amount received.

**3. Nomination and References:** Applicants must be nominated by a school or agency. A total of **two (2)** letters of recommendation are also required, in addition to the nominating statement.

**4. High School Transcript:** An official high school transcript must accompany your application

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**Assemble your application packet in the following order and use this as your checklist:**

- The Christian A. Herter Application Form** \_\_\_\_\_
- The Nominee's Autobiographical Statement** \_\_\_\_\_
- Letter of Recommendation from Nominating Agency** \_\_\_\_\_
- Supporting Financial Statement (including copy of 2011 tax forms)** \_\_\_\_\_
- Two (2) additional Letters of Recommendation** \_\_\_\_\_
- Original Official High School Transcript (Copies not accepted)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Application Due Date is March 1, 2012 – INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

2012 CHRISTIAN A. HERTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION

The complete application is also available on line at www.osfa.mass.edu . The completed application along with all other required information (see instructions) must be received by March 1, 2012. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

APPLICANT'S INFORMATION

LAST FIRST MI SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER DATE OF BIRTH

HOME ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP TELEPHONE

SCHOOL NAME DATE OF GRADUATION

SCHOOL ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

( ) CURRENT GRADE: 10th 11th (12th grade students not eligible to apply) SCHOOL TELEPHONE (PLEASE CHECK ONE)

CITIZENSHIP STATUS: (please check one) U.S CITIZEN ELIGIBLE NON-CITIZEN NOT AN ELIGIBLE CITIZEN

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: Two letters of recommendation from two other separate individuals must be included in your application packet. Letters of recommendation may not be written by the applicant, anyone under 21 years of age or anyone related to you or serving as your legal guardian. A phone number must be included for each person providing a recommendation. (Note: A separate statement must also be submitted by the nominating school or agency)

REFERENCE 1

Last Name First Name Relationship to Applicant (i.e. teacher, counselor, clergy or employer, etc.)

Telephone Number Business Address E-Mail Address

REFERENCE 2

Last Name First Name Relationship to Applicant (i.e. teacher, counselor, clergy or employer, etc.)

Telephone Number Business Address E-Mail Address

NOMINATING ORGANIZATION: This section must be completed by the high school official or agency representative (i.e., Guidance Counselor, social worker, clergy, etc.) who is nominating the student, and accompanied by an original official school transcript.

I, on behalf of, whose principal (Please Print) (Name of Secondary School or Agency)

place of business is located at STREET CITY STATE ZIP

hereby nominate for the 2012 Christian A. Herter Memorial Scholarship Program.

Signature of Nominating Official Title Telephone E-Mail Address

NOMINATING STATEMENT. Please attach a separate statement that describes the nominee's academic background, motivation and potential for achievement. This statement should also address the nominee's ability to cope with adversity or difficult situations and provide an assessment of his/her eligibility for the Herter Scholarship.

