

THE NSLS FOUNDATION

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS PROGRAM FALL 2021 – SPRING 2022



OVERVIEW

The NSLS Foundation receives funds from a variety of donors and funders. The total monetary value of the program changes each year based on the growth of our campaign funds.

The NSLS Foundation receives a large volume of scholarship applications each term and winners are chosen by The NSLS Foundation Review Board through a highly selective process. Due to this competitive environment, applicants are encouraged to submit their best work in order to increase the chances of receiving a scholarship, grant, or award.

All Scholarships and Awards applications must be submitted through The NSLS Foundation application portal. The application window closes at **11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the deadline date**.

Term	Fall: September 7 - October 29	January 31 - March 25	
Deadline	October 29, 2021	March 25, 2022	
Announcement	December 13, 2021	May 9, 2022	

Application inquiries can be directed to awards@nsls.org.



LIST OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

The NSLS Foundation wants to provide everyone the opportunity to discover their leadership potential. We are proud to say that our scholarship program has awarded over \$2,000,000 in scholarships since 2001 to NSLS members and our chapters. We encourage all those who qualify as an Advisor or Member to apply.

STEPHEN COVEY TRIBUTE AWARDS

Title	Amount	Number Awarded	Membership Requirement	Term
Chapter of the Year	\$1,400 to chapter + \$100 each to 12 executive board members*	1	Chapter Award	Spring
Advisor of the Year	\$500 to Advisor + \$100 to nominator	1	Advisor Only	Spring

*If the chapter has more than 12 E-Board members, the \$1,200 will be distributed evenly to all members.



MISSION-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Title	Amount	Number Awarded Each Term	Membership Requirement	Term
United By Purpose: A Challenge for Equality for All	\$3,000	5	All	Fall Spring
Dream Support Grant	\$25,000 to be divided among recipients	Varies	Inducted	Fall Spring
Academic Excellence Scholarship	\$3,000	12	Inducted	Fall Spring
New Member Scholarship	\$1,000	10	New Members	Fall Spring
Online Member Scholarship	\$1,000	10	Online Members	Fall Spring
Alumni Award	\$1000	5	Inducted	Fall Spring
Healthy Living Grant	\$1,000	10	All	Fall Spring
Practicing Leadership Scholarship	\$500	5	Advanced Leadership Certification Members	Fall Spring
Living Leadership Scholarship	\$1,000	5	Executive Leadership Certification Members	Fall Spring



NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Title	Amount	Number Awarded Each Term	Membership Requirement	Term
United By Purpose: Building Equitable Leaders	\$1,000	10	All	Fall Spring
Financial Aid Materials Grant	\$1,000	10	All	Fall Spring
NSLS Little Leaders Award	\$1,200	5	All	Fall Spring

Fall Deadline: October 29, 2021 at 11:59 p.m. ET Spring Deadline: March 25, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. ET







CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

Each year, the NSLS recognizes one chapter for the impact it has had upon both its members and the community. This prestigious award is received by the chapter that continuously demonstrates excellent leadership to its members, campus, and community.

Five additional chapters will be recognized with the Distinguished Chapter Award, receiving \$700 toward chapter dues and each active Executive Board member (up to 12) receiving \$50. If the winning chapter has more than 12 E-Board members, the \$600 will be split evenly amongst all E-Board members.

Award

- Chapter of the Year receives \$1,400 toward chapter dues
- \$100 for up to 12 Executive Board members. If the winning chapter has more than 12 E-Board members, the \$1,200 will be split evenly amongst all E-Board members.
- Certificate of Recognition

Eligibility

- Demonstrates dedication to the NSLS mission, building leaders who make a better world
- Exemplifies outstanding chapter development, membership support, and leadership training
- Actively engages in campus and community volunteerism

Requirements

- Completed online application.
- Maximum four (4) page essay (12pt. font, double-spaced) from the Student President or Executive Board member answering the question:
 - 1. How has your chapter demonstrated outstanding dedication to the NSLS mission, chapter development and member growth, and leadership training?
 - 2. Provide examples or anecdotes of how your chapter has had a significant impact on your campus and community.
- One letter of recommendation from a faculty or staff at the school detailing the impact the chapter has had upon the campus community.
- At least 5 high-resolution color photographs from chapter events, each 300KB or higher.
- Provide us with all social media outlets: Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, etc..



ADVISOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

NSLS Chapter Advisors are vital in the development, perpetuation, and strength of the NSLS mission. Not only are they mentors and leaders to the Executive Board and local chapter members, but also serve as a liaison with the campus administration. Each year the NSLS recognizes one Advisor that truly exemplifies the NSLS mission and goes above and beyond expectations.

We will also recognize **5 additional Advisors** with the Distinguished Advisor Award, each receiving \$150 and the nominator receiving \$25.

Award

- \$500 to winner / \$100 to nominator of winning Advisor
- Number of Recipients: 1
- Certificate of Recognition

Eligibility

- Exemplifies the qualities of a leader by successfully running a chapter
- Provides an inclusive environment for all members
- Supplies a consistently high level of support to the Executive Board and members
- Maintains consistent communication with the National Office

Requirements

- Completed online application.
- Maximum four (4) page essay (12 pt. font, double-spaced) from the nominator answering the questions:
 - 1. How does this Chapter Advisor exemplify true leadership, and how does he/she go above and beyond supporting their chapter?
 - 2. What are some characteristics that make this Advisor an exceptional role model? Provide examples or situations that may help support your answer.
- One letter of recommendation from the Student President or an Executive Board Member.
- A high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant, 300KB or larger.



MISSION-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

United By Purpose: A Challenge for Equality for All

Dream Support Grant

Academic Excellence Scholarship

New Member Scholarship

Online Member Scholarship

Alumni Award

Healthy Living Grant

Practicing Leadership Scholarship

Living Leadership Scholarship



UNITED BY PURPOSE: A CHALLENGE FOR EQUALITY FOR ALL

Our members are navigating a world that is rapidly changing, and we want to recognize those members who have used or have a desire to use their voices and outlets of expression to empower themselves and others to make the world a more equitable place.

The NSLS United By Purpose: A Challenge for Equality for All Scholarship is intended to provide financial support to teams of NSLS members who want to engage in raising awareness for promoting diversity, equity, and inclusivity with the hope of creating a sense of belonging for everyone, irrespective of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, challenged ability, or socioeconomic status on campus.

Award

- \$3,000
- Number of Recipients: 5
- Certificate of Accomplishment

Eligibility

• All NSLS members

Requirements

- Completed online application (include the names of each team member)
- Include a high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the team, 300KB or larger.
- Provide a brief (maximum 5 pages) Project Scope:
 - 1. Describe what actions you wish to take on-campus that will impact and inform others regarding diversity, equity, or inclusion.
 - 2. Explain how you will implement the project once you receive the \$3,000 fund, including a timeline for implementation and expected impact.
 - 3. Share why you wish to earn these funds for your campus



DREAM SUPPORT GRANT

The NSLS Foundation aims to empower and engage individuals in embarking upon their dreams and aspirations. We recognize that working towards a personal goal takes unlimited hard work, unyielding determination, and unbreakable courage that must defy all odds. The purpose of this grant is to support individuals in achieving their dream.

Award

- **\$25,000** is available to be awarded for each scholarship term. **Applicants must specify the amount they are requesting.**
- Number of Recipients: Due to the various amounts requested, there may be multiple winners
- Certificate of Accomplishment

Eligibility

- Inducted Member of the NSLS (steps to induction completed—it is not necessary for you to have attended an induction ceremony to be eligible)
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0

Requirements

- Completed online application
- Copy of most current transcript (unofficial transcripts are acceptable).
- Maximum three (3) page essay (12 pt. font, double-spaced) that includes the following:
 - 1. Amount you are requesting and where the money is specifically needed (outline of costs).
 - 2. Your dream: how this dream came to be, what are your action steps to achieve it, and what obstacles or challenges have you had or are expecting to have in achieving it?
 - 3. How will this grant directly contribute to you accomplishing your dream?
 - 4. Provide two or more examples of how your membership in the NSLS has positively contributed to or influenced those around you.
- Copies of receipts and/or invoices that have been spent towards your dream.
- A high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant, 300KB or larger.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP

Higher education is one of the most valuable investments any individual can make. It requires commitment to education and discipline to persevere through the academic rigors of undergraduate or graduate studies. The NSLS recognizes inducted members that exemplify leadership accomplishments, as well as high academic standing.

Award

- \$3,000 toward undergraduate or graduate tuition
- Number of Recipients: 12
- Certificate of Accomplishment

Eligibility

- Inducted Member of the NSLS (steps to induction completed—it is not necessary for you to have attended an induction ceremony to be eligible)
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.7
- Must be an enrolled student in the following semester after Scholarship Term
- Award is ONLY payable to the school toward school tuition

Requirements

- Completed online application
- Copy of current transcript (unofficial is acceptable)
- Maximum five (5) page essay (12 pt. font, double-spaced) that includes the following:
 - 1. What has been the biggest obstacle to your academic success and how did you overcome it?
 - 2. What do you intend to do with the degree you are currently working towards (if known)?
 - 3. Provide two or more examples of how your membership in the NSLS has positively contributed to or influenced those around you.
- A high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant, 300KB or larger.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.



NEW MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP

New members are joining the NSLS every day, and the NSLS Foundation recognizes that many of these members will make an impact on their chapters, communities, and their own lives almost immediately. The New Member Scholarship recognizes excellent students in their first semester as NSLS members.

Award

- \$1,000
- Number of Recipients: 10
- Certificate of Accomplishment

Eligibility

- New member of NSLS who joined during the current semester
- Attended at least one event toward induction (Orientation, Leadership Training Day, Speaker Broadcast, or Success Networking Team meeting)

Requirements

- Completed online application
- Maximum three (3) page essay (12 pt. font, double-spaced) that includes the following:
 - Why did you decide to join NSLS?
 - What impact has your membership already had on your life?
 - What are your future goals as an NSLS member?
- A high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant, 300KB or larger.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.



ONLINE MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP

The NSLS Foundation recognizes the increasing importance of online education for today's students, whether they are pursuing their undergraduate or graduate degree, or simply taking classes to learn and better their futures. The Online Member Scholarship awards students who are enrolled in an online chapter of the NSLS.

Award

- \$1,000
- Number of Recipients: 10
- Certificate of Accomplishment

Eligibility

• Member of an online chapter of the NSLS

Requirements

- Completed online application
- Maximum three (3) page essay (12 pt. font, double-spaced) that includes the following:
 - 1. Why did you choose to pursue your education online?
 - 2. How has that decision helped to shape your life?
- A high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant, 300KB or larger.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.



ALUMNI AWARD

NSLS members excel as leaders long after they have achieved induction and graduated from college. The NSLS Foundation encourages these alumni members to continue to develop as leaders long after they leave campus, and the Alumni Award recognizes those who are living the values of NSLS in their careers.

Award

- \$1,000
- Number of Recipients: 5
- Certificate of Accomplishment

Eligibility

- Inducted Member of the NSLS (steps to induction completed—it is not necessary for you to have attended an induction ceremony to be eligible)
- Completed undergraduate degree (Bachelor's or Associate's Degree) currently in the workforce or working toward a graduate degree.

Requirements

- Completed online application
- Maximum three (3) page essay (12 pt. font, double-spaced) that includes the following:
 - 1. How are you living the values of the NSLS in your career/graduate work?
 - 2. How did your experience in the NSLS shape your career?
- A high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant, 300KB or larger.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.



HEALTHY LIVING GRANT

The NSLS encourages our members to strive to be the healthiest versions of themselves. Whether that means eating correctly, taking fitness classes or receiving your certification (e.g., yoga instructor, personal trainer, etc.), the NSLS wants to help you get there. The Healthy Living Grant provides financial assistance to aid in achieving your goals.

Award

- \$1,000
- Number of Recipients: 10
- Certificate of Accomplishment

Eligibility

• All members

Requirements

- Completed online application.
- Maximum three (3) page essay which answers the following:
 - 1. What does healthy living mean to you and what is your motivation to live a healthy life?
 - 2. What are your health goals, how are you going to achieve them, and how will this grant make that possible?
- A high resolution photo of yourself, 300KB or larger.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.



PRACTICING LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is available exclusively to members who are registered for the Advanced Leadership Certification. The Advanced Leadership Certification allows members to continue their leadership journey, shifting their focus from one of self-growth to service of others, from learning leadership to practicing leadership, from being the motivated to being the motivator and empowering those around them. The Advanced Leadership Certification explores topics like Diversity of Styles, Emotional Intelligence, and Leveraging Your Strengths while also outlining how to identify and secure a mentor. Further, students acquire the skills needed to navigate the challenging situations that emerge in groups through experiential, in-the-moment problem solving.

Award

- \$500
- Number of Recipients: 5

Eligibility

- Enrolled in Advanced Leadership Certification
- Letter of recommendation (see below)

Requirements

- Completed online application.
- Maximum three (3) page essay which answers the following:
 - 1. Why did you choose to enroll in the Advanced Leadership Certification?
 - 2. Why did you choose your community service initiative?
- A high resolution photo of yourself, 300KB or larger.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.



LIVING LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is available exclusively to members who are registered for the Executive Leadership Certification. The Executive Leadership Certification allows members to continue their leadership journey. Through the completion of an NSLS Better World project--the focus moves from Practicing Leadership to Living Leadership, from being the mentee to being the mentor. The Executive Leadership Certification explores topics like Inclusive Leadership, Unconventional Solutions, and Perspective. Further, students are tasked with organizing and completing their own NSLS Better World Project.

Award

- \$1,000
- Number of Recipients: 5

Eligibility

• Enrolled in Executive Leadership Certification

Requirements

- Completed online application.
- Maximum three (3) page essay which answers the following:
 - 1. Why did you choose to enroll in the Executive Leadership Certification?
 - 2. Why did you choose your NSLS Better World Project?
- A high resolution photo of yourself, 300KB or larger.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.







UNITED BY PURPOSE: BUILDING EQUITABLE LEADERS

The United by Purpose: Building Equitable Leaders Scholarship supports the NSLS's commitment in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusivity with the hope of creating a sense of belonging for everyone, irrespective of race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, challenged ability, or socioeconomic status. We support our entire community as we work alongside all who are adversely affected every day by systemic racism and injustice.

This scholarship has been created for NSLS members and is a financial aid award to be used for educational purposes towards tuition, books, resources, room and board, housing, commuting, childcare, and more. Our goal is to give a voice to all students and their individual perspectives.

Award

- \$1,000
- Number of Recipients: 10
- Certificate of Accomplishment

Eligibility

- All Members of the NSLS
- Must demonstrate financial need towards academic expenses

Requirements

- Completed online application.
- Provide an essay (max 3 pages) that answers ONE of the following prompts:
 - 1. Essay One: Describe what diversity, equity, and inclusion mean to you and discuss any challenges that have shaped how you think about DEI.
 - 2. Essay Two: Tell us what advice you would have for other students regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion.
 - 3. Essay Three: Describe what actions you have taken to impact and inform others, or ideas you would like to implement, regarding diversity, equity, or inclusion on your campus, community, social media platforms, etc.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.
- Include a high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant, 300KB or larger.



FINANCIAL AID MATERIALS GRANT

The NSLS Foundation designates a certain amount of scholarship funds to those who are in need of financial assistance towards their undergraduate or graduate degrees. The purpose for this grant is to support endeavors for higher education and assist in extraneous academic expenses such as textbooks.

Award

- \$1,000
- Number of Recipients: 10

Eligibility

- All Members of the NSLS
- Must demonstrate financial need towards academic expenses

Requirements

- Completed online application.
- Provide a 3 page essay (12 pt. font, double-spaced) that includes the following:
 - 1. What are the financial circumstances that make you eligible for a need-based grant?
 - 2. Provide two or more examples of how your membership in the NSLS has positively contributed to or influenced those around you.
- A high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant, 300KB or larger.
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional, academic, or personal reference discussing why you deserve to be a recipient of this award.



NSLS LITTLE LEADERS AWARD

The NSLS Foundation recognizes that we all have a "Little Leader" in our lives, be it your child, cousin, sibling or even a family friend, who could benefit from a program which fosters and supports their interests (e.g., academic tutoring, sports classes, foreign language classes, etc.). The Little Leaders Award pays for these programs that will help our Little Leaders grow to be well-rounded individuals who make a better world.

Award

- Up to \$1,200
- Number of Recipients: 5

Eligibility

- All Members of the NSLS
- Little Leader must be between the ages of 5 14.

Requirements

- Completed online application.
- Provide a short essay (12 pt. font, double-spaced) that includes the following:
 - 1. The extracurricular activity your Little Leader (**ages 5-14**) is interested in and why you believe their participation will help build them into a leader who makes a better world.
 - 2. The monthly/yearly cost of the activity
- A high resolution, forward-facing color headshot of the applicant (**not the child**), 300KB or larger.



ELIGIBILITY AND DISTRIBUTION

The NSLS Foundation Review Board checks submissions for proper eligibility and truthfulness. Due to various scholarships and awards, eligibility requirements are specified accordingly. Inaccurate and incomplete applications will result in disqualification. The NSLS Foundation retains the right to not award a scholarship or grant at any given time, with the funds rolling over to the next award period. Should the NSLS Foundation learn of a winner's fraudulent application, the NSLS Foundation will exercise the right to rescind the award and revoke the applicant's NSLS membership.

Member Status

All applicants must be registered members of the NSLS. Registered members include both pre-inducted and inducted members. Inducted members are members who have completed the steps to induction.

International Students & Non-U.S. Citizen Members

The NSLS Foundation welcomes international students and non-U.S. citizen members (with a valid Social Security number) to apply for any award, scholarship, and/or grant. Award recipients with this status must provide additional documentation before receiving the award.

Award Distribution

The NSLS Foundation distributes awards in the form of a check or gift, which is specified in each award description. Due to the various scholarships, awards, and grants, the monetary award check may be payable to either the applicant or the applicant's college/university and applied towards any outstanding tuition balance.

Documents to Receive Award

The NSLS Foundation Scholarships and Awards Department will contact the recipient directly via the email address provided in the application on the announcement date. The email will include necessary documents that need to be completed and returned.

For award checks that are made payable to the college/university/program, a form will be attached in the email for the student to complete, requesting the school's **Bursar or Cashier Office** information in order for the NSLS to mail the check directly to the school to be applied toward outstanding tuition.

For award checks that are made payable to the recipient directly, a **W-9** form will be attached in the email for the student to complete. International students will be required to provide additional documentation:

- 1. Proof of matriculation at the US-based college or university
- 2. Copy of Valid Student Visa
- 3. Completed W-8BEN form (will be attached in the email)

Questions or concerns can be directed to awards@nsls.org.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GENERAL

When are the deadline dates?

Please see page 2 of this document for the application deadline dates. There are no exceptions to these deadline dates. Late applications will not be accepted under any circumstances.

I don't know how to resize my photo to 300KB or 1.7 MB. Can you please help?

You can resize any photo by using Paint, which is an installed program on your computer. As we cannot assist individual applicants with resizing photographs, we can suggest consulting with your local school's IT department.

ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS

I am not a U.S. citizen. Can I still apply?

Non-U.S. citizens that reside in the United States may apply only if he or she has a Social Security Number. This is needed to complete the W-9 form to receive the monetary award. International students may apply as well. International student winners must provide proof of matriculation at the US-based college or university, valid student visa, and completed W-8BEN form. The W-9 and W-8BEN form will be provided to the winner to be completed and returned to the Scholarships and Awards Department via e-mail.

Can I apply for more than one scholarship, grant, or award?

Yes. The NSLS Foundation Review Board evaluates each submission individually based on the criteria of the specific scholarship, grant, or award. However, members may only win a maximum of one scholarship, grant, or award.

If I have won a scholarship, grant, or award in the past, can I still apply?

Yes. The NSLS Foundation Review Board evaluates each submission individually based on the criteria of the specific scholarship, grant, or award.

I am not yet inducted, but I expect to be inducted by the end of the semester. Would I qualify for the "inducted member" requirement?

As long as all of your induction steps are completed by the time you submit your application (before the submission deadline date), you will qualify and fulfill the requirement as an "inducted member."

I do not have a FAFSA Summary. What other documents can I send to verify my financial need?

If you do not have a FAFSA Summary, you may send any other form of documentation that demonstrates your financial need at your discretion.



APPLICATION

Can I make corrections on a submitted application?

No. All submissions are final. Please do not submit your application more than once, as it will not be reviewed. If you have any questions regarding your submitted application, you may email awards@nsls.org.

What do you look for in a strong application?

The NSLS Foundation receives hundreds of applications each submission term and evaluates applications based on the specific purpose and description. Historically, the strongest applications include the following characteristics:

- 1. Required questions are answered with complex responses that are well thought-out. The provided details and examples fully support the purpose and goal of the scholarship, grant, or award.
- 2. Structure of the essay is organized, cohesive, void of grammatical errors and makes proper use of vocabulary. Do not include extraneous words or content.
- 3. Information presented conveys that the member understands the NSLS mission, "building leaders who make a better world."
- 4. Creativity and uniqueness of submission.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

How do I know if I won?

This year's announcement dates are provided on page 2 of this document. Winners are emailed individually through the email address they have provided in their application.

When can I expect to receive my check?

Checks are mailed after the necessary forms are completed accurately and returned to the Scholarships and Awards Department via email the application portal. Depending on the award, the form may be a W-9/W-8BEN or Tuition Form. The checks are shipped via First Class Mail.

Additional inquiries can be directed to awards@nsls.org.