



SOUTHEASTERN  
BRAIN TUMOR  
FOUNDATION

Support • Hope • Courage

Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation (SBTF)  
*Voices of Hope* Academic Scholarship  
OFFICIAL RULES

**ELIGIBILITY:** The Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation *Voices of Hope* Academic Scholarship Program (“Scholarship”) is open to legal residents of the United States who must be enrolled in a post-secondary education at an accredited College, University, or Technical school in one of the fifty United States or the District of Columbia. The Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation, Inc. (“SBTF”) employees, Board Members, Officers of the Board, and their family members are not eligible for the SBTF *Voices of Hope* Academic Scholarship.

The purpose of our *Voices of Hope* Academic Scholarship Program is to provide an individual who has been directly impacted by a brain tumor diagnosis or the diagnosis of an immediate family member with the opportunity to pursue a post-secondary education at an accredited College, University, or Technical school located in one of the fifty United States or the District of Columbia. Student applicants can enroll online, in person, or through both methods. Immediate family members include: child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, spouse, former spouse, sibling, cousin, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law. This definition also encompasses relationships through adoption or guardianship.

The primary diagnosis must be a brain tumor, specifically a physical tumor located either in the brain or pituitary gland.

Applicants will be asked to upload the Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) of those contributing to the applicant’s educational expenses which may include you, your spouse, your biological or adoptive parent, or parent’s spouse. Please mask personal information such as Social Security number, home address, and phone number for your personal data security. You can submit your AGI from a federal tax return or the AGI from your FAFSA Application (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), and the SBTF will delete such documentation within 45 days of submission. This information is factored into scoring.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** The Scholarship award shall be no less than \$1,500, subject to the terms and conditions of these Official Rules. It is awarded on an annual basis and is for one academic year.

**HOW TO APPLY:** To apply, complete and submit the Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation *Voices of Hope* Academic Scholarship Application (“Application”), available online at [www.sbtbf.org](http://www.sbtbf.org). Limit  
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one Application per person. All Applications become the property of the SBTF and will not be returned. The SBTF assumes no responsibility for lost, misdirected, or unintelligible entries.

To uphold academic integrity and encourage students to develop their own critical thinking and writing skills, artificial intelligence (AI) tools—such as ChatGPT, Grammarly AI, and other text-generating software—is **strictly prohibited**. We use AI detection software and if your application is in violation of our policies, it will be disqualified without notice.

**Prohibited Actions Include:**

- Using AI to generate, edit, or enhance essay responses.
- Copying and pasting AI-generated text into any submitted work.
- Using AI to rephrase or restructure existing text for submission.

**Consequences of Violation:**

- Any use of AI in essay responses will be considered **academic dishonesty**.
- All applications are run through a program to detect if AI has been used.
- If an application is found to have used AI, it will be **automatically disqualified without notice**.

**Acceptable Assistance:**

- Tools for spell-checking and grammar correction that do not create content are permitted.

By submitting an Application, you fully and unconditionally accept and agree to these Official Rules and the decisions of the SBTF, which are final and binding.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** All applications for the scholarship must be submitted electronically by 5:00 PM EST on April 30th of the current calendar year.

**SELECTION OF POTENTIAL RECIPIENT(S):** The decision to annually award the Scholarship, to determine the number of recipients and select the amount of each award, is at the sole discretion of the SBTF. Submissions of any Application(s) do not guarantee that a Scholarship will be awarded. The SBTF does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status in any of its activities including the selection of the Scholarship Recipient(s).

**REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES/INDEMNIFICATION:** Each person who submits an Application (“Applicant”) represents and warrants to the SBTF as follows: (a) the Application is the Applicant's original, previously unpublished, and previously unproduced work; (b) the Application is wholly original with Applicant and as of the date of submission, is not the subject of any actual or threatened litigation or claim; (c) the Application neither infringes upon nor violates the intellectual property rights or other rights of any other person or entity; (d) the Application does not and will not violate any applicable laws.

Each Applicant hereby agrees to indemnify and hold the SBTF harmless from and against any and all third-party claims, actions, or proceedings of any kind and from any and all damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses relating to or arising out of any breach or alleged breach of any of the warranties, representations or agreements of Applicant hereunder.

**OWNERSHIP:** By submitting an Application, Applicants acknowledge and agree that (a) the SBTF will own the Application, including the written response submission, and (b) the SBTF will own all publishing rights in and to the Application and the written response submission. Each Applicant hereby irrevocably grants, transfers, sells, assigns, and conveys to the SBTF its successors and assigns all present and future rights, title, and interest of every kind and nature whatsoever, including, without limitation, all copyrights, and all rights incidental, subsidiary, ancillary or allied thereto (including, without limitation, all derivative rights) in and to the Application and the written response submission(s) for exploitation throughout the universe, in perpetuity, by means of any and all media and devices whether now known or hereafter devised (the "Rights"). In its sole discretion, the SBTF shall have the right to edit, composite, morph, scan, duplicate, or alter the Application and written response submission(s) for any purpose which the SBTF deems necessary or desirable. Each Applicant irrevocably waives any and all rights they may have in the Application and written response submission(s) submitted by them. Each Applicant hereby acknowledges that such Applicant does not reserve any rights in and to the Application.

**PAYMENT DIRECTIONS:** Funds cannot be distributed until the Scholarship Recipient provides a copy of their Proof of Enrollment (Acceptance Letter or Current Class Schedule), Mailing Address for the Scholarship/Financial Aid Office, website address link for the office, Applicant's Legal Name as listed with the Institution and Student ID Number or Student Account Number of a post-secondary accredited College, University, or Technical school located in one of the fifty United States or the District of Columbia.

The Scholarship award will be in the form of a check made payable to and delivered directly to the Scholarship/Financial Aid Office of the accredited post-secondary institution of higher education attended (or to be attended) by the Scholarship Recipient (once the Scholarship Recipient has enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education and submitted proof of enrollment to the SBTF included in the Scholarship Application).

The Scholarship award is granted exclusively to the original recipient and is not eligible for assignment, transfer, or reallocation to another individual under any circumstances. In the event the recipient withdraws, transfers to another institution, changes enrollment status, defers attendance, or otherwise alters their academic plans, the Scholarship award will be forfeited and may not be reinstated, redirected, or applied to a different term, program, or institution. Any such change will render the award null and void.

**AWARD NOTIFICATION AND SCHOLARSHIP TIMELINE:** The SBTF will email award notifications from [scholarships@sbtf.org](mailto:scholarships@sbtf.org) on or before June 15th. If you receive an award, you will have until June 22nd of the current calendar year, 5:00 PM EST, to submit the requested information

noted on your award letter. We will not be sending out reminders. Your award will be forfeited if the requested information is not sent by that deadline. There will be no exceptions.

**Award Distribution:** The Scholarship awards are distributed in the form of a check made payable to and delivered directly to the Bursar/Financial Aid Office of the post-secondary accredited College, University, or Technical school located in one of the fifty United States or the District of Columbia attended (or to be attended) by the Scholarship Recipient. Funds will be disbursed when the Scholarship Recipient has proven enrollment in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education and submitted proof of enrollment to the SBTF included in the Scholarship Application. The Scholarship may not be assigned, transferred, or changed. No cash equivalent prize or monies will be awarded.

The school identified on the scholarship application must be the exact institution to which the award payment is issued. No exceptions will be made. For example, an applicant may not indicate attendance at Georgia State University on the application and later request that the scholarship payment be sent to the University of Georgia.

#### **GENERAL CONDITIONS AND RELEASES:**

By submitting an Application, the Applicant agrees to conform to all federal, state, and local laws and regulations, which may include providing proof of identity. Taxes on any Scholarships are the sole responsibility of the Scholarship Recipient.

Unless prohibited by applicable law, acceptance of a Scholarship constitutes permission to use the Scholarship Recipient's name, photograph, likeness, voice, address (city and state), and testimonials in all media, in perpetuity, in any manner the SBTF deems appropriate for publicity purposes without any compensation to such Recipient or any review or approval rights, notifications, or permissions; and constitutes consent to disclose personally identifiable information to third parties (including, without limitation, placing the Scholarship Recipient's name on a list of awardees').

By applying for the Scholarship, Applicant agrees to and hereby does release and hold harmless the SBTF and its directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents, and representatives from any damage, injury, death, loss, claim, action, demand, or other liability (collectively, "Claims") that may arise from Applicant's acceptance, possession and/or use of any Scholarship or Applicant's Application for this Scholarship, regardless of whether such Claims, or knowledge of the facts constituting such Claims, exist at the time of application or arise at any time thereafter. Any person attempting to defraud or in any way tamper with this Scholarship may be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. The SBTF reserves the right to modify these Official Rules in any way or at any time. In its sole discretion, the SBTF reserves the right to cancel or suspend this Scholarship at any time.

THE SCHOLARSHIP IS AWARDED "AS IS," AND THE SBTF DOES NOT MAKE ANY, AND HEREBY DISCLAIMS ANY AND ALL, REPRESENTATIONS OR WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND REGARDING THE SCHOLARSHIP.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANYTHING ELSE HEREIN OR OTHERWISE, THE SBTF AND/OR ITS VENDORS SHALL NOT BE LIABLE OR OBLIGATED WITH RESPECT TO ANY SUBJECT MATTER OF THIS AGREEMENT OR UNDER CONTRACT, NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY OR OTHER LEGAL OR EQUITABLE THEORY FOR (A) ANY SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, OR EXEMPLARY DAMAGES (INCLUDING, WITHOUT

LIMITATION, LOSS OF REVENUE, GOODWILL, OR ANTICIPATED PROFITS), (B) DATA LOSS OR COST OF PROCUREMENT OF SUBSTITUTE GOODS OR SERVICES, AND/OR (C) ANY MATTER BEYOND SUCH PARTIES' REASONABLE CONTROL.

**DISPUTES:** Except where prohibited, each Applicant agrees that (a) any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Scholarship shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action; (b) any and all claims, judgments, and awards shall be limited to actual out-of-pocket costs incurred, including costs associated with participating in the Scholarship, but in no event attorneys' fees and the fees of other professionals; and (c) under no circumstances will entrant be permitted to obtain awards for, and Applicant hereby waives all rights to claim indirect, punitive, incidental, special, and consequential damages and any other damages, other than for actual, out-of-pocket expenses, and any and all rights to have damages multiplied or otherwise increased. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation, and enforceability of these Official Rules, or the rights and obligations of the entrant and the SBTF in connection with the Scholarship shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia without giving any effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules. By submitting an Application, the Applicant consents to the jurisdiction and venue of federal, state, and local courts located in Atlanta, Georgia.

**ORDER OF PRECEDENCE:** To the extent there are any discrepancies between these Official Rules and any other documentation or representation regarding the Scholarship, these Official Rules take precedence.