



## Application for El Sol Foundation American Dream Scholarship

The El Sol Foundation's American Dream Scholarship program seeks to award former students of El Sol Science and Arts Academy who will be entering a bachelor's degree program in the fall with gap funding to cover the cost of tuition, books, living expenses, transportation, and other education-related costs. Scholarship amounts range from \$3,000 - \$10,000 dispersed over 4 years provided you maintain enrollment in your degree program.

### SCHOLARSHIP THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS

- Graduated from El Sol Science and Arts Academy; currently graduating from high school.
- Preparing to enter your 1<sup>st</sup> year of a bachelor's degree program.
- Qualify for the Free and Reduced Lunch program at your public or charter high school or meet comparable family income requirements if enrolled at a private school.

### SCHOLARSHIP REVIEW CRITERIA

Students who meet threshold requirements will be considered for a scholarship based on the El Sol Foundation board review and ranking of ***academic record, leadership qualities and community service achievements*** throughout their time in high school. All finalists will be asked to participate in an interview conducted remotely with members of the El Sol Foundation Board.

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Application Form**
- Release of Information Form**
- 2 Essays (see pg.2 for prompts)**
- 2 Letters of Reference**
- High School Transcripts**
- College Admissions Acceptance Letter and Confirmation of Intent to Attend**

### DEADLINE

Applications are due by June 7, 2024 and can be submitted electronically to Ms. Kayla Daviss, Administrative Assistant at [kdaviss@elsolacademy.org](mailto:kdaviss@elsolacademy.org) by 11:59pm or dropped off at El Sol Academy's front office during school hours. Applicants will be notified of decisions by July 1, 2024.

If you have further questions, please email Ms. Daviss at [kdaviss@elsolacademy.org](mailto:kdaviss@elsolacademy.org).



## Application Requirements

**Application Form**

**Release of Information Form**

Signed by a parent/guardian to confirm your income eligibility defined by the Federal Free and Reduced Lunch program or, if you attended a private school, similar family income qualifications and to grant us permission to review your high school transcripts. **The income, transcript, and GPA data you provide to the El Sol Foundation will only be used to determine your eligibility to apply for the El Sol American Dream Scholarship and facilitate the review process.** Students and their parents/guardians should complete the yellow highlighted areas of the application form before applicants ask a high school counselor or administrator to complete the blue portion. *Please allow for at least 1 week processing time at your school site.*

**High School Transcripts**

**2 Essays**

- Essay Prompt 1:* Describe your background and your American dream concerning your future career. What inspired your dream? Limit: 650 words.
- Essay Prompt 2:* Discuss an accomplishment you are most proud of and how it has impacted your personal growth. Limit: 650 words.

**2 Letters of Reference**

From a high school teacher or community leader who is knowledgeable of the applicant's leadership qualities and community service.

**College Admissions Letter**

- A copy of your acceptance letter into a 4-year college/university

AND

- Proof of your intent to attend a 4-year college/university such as a screenshot of your registration deposit (paid/waived) from your student portal of your intended university.



# Application Form

## I. STUDENT CONTACT INFORMATION

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Student Name <i>First, Last</i>   |  |
| Mailing Address<br><i>Street Address, City, State, Zip Code</i>                             |  |
| Contact Numbers   | Home: (    )    -    Cell: (    )    - |
| Email Address   |  |
| Statewide Student ID Number<br><i>This is the State ID on the bottom of your transcript</i> |  |

## II. EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

|   |  |
|---|--|
| El Sol Academy Graduation Year                  |  |
| High School Name                                |  |
| High School Counselor's Name <i>First, Last</i> |  |
| High School Counselor's Email                   |  |
| High School Counselor's Phone Number            |  |

## III. UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCE

|   |     |    |  |     |    |
|---|-----|----|--|-----|----|
| Have you been accepted to a four-year university?   | YES | NO | I am attaching proof of intent to attend such college or university. | YES | NO |
| Have you formally indicated your intent to attend such university (provide letter or receipts/waiver of registration costs etc. | YES | NO |  |     |    |

## IV. ATTACHMENTS TO APPLICATION

Please include the following application materials with your application:

|         |         |                       |                       |                        |                             |  |
|---------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Essay 1 | Essay 2 | Letter of Reference 1 | Letter of Reference 2 | High School Transcript | Release of Information Form | College Admissions Letter and Intent to Attend Documents |
|---------|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|

## V. STUDENT SIGNATURE

*I understand it is my responsibility to ensure all application materials are submitted by June 7, 2024 11:59pm.*

**STUDENT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Submit all application materials to Ms. Kayla Daviss, Administrative Assistant at kdaviss@elsolacademy.org by 11:59pm or drop off a copy to the front office of El Sol Academy during school hours.**



# Release of Information Form-Parents and School Administrators

## AUTHORIZATION

I, (parent/legal guardian name) \_\_\_\_\_ authorize school administrators/staff of (name of high school) \_\_\_\_\_ to provide (name of student) \_\_\_\_\_, with their Federal Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility status, or family income data similar to Free and Reduced Lunch program criteria, and a copy of their high school transcripts. I understand that the income eligibility status, transcripts, and GPA are requirements of the El Sol Foundation board when applying for the American Dream Scholarship and that this information will be used solely for the purpose of determining student eligibility for the American Dream Scholarship and the El Sol Foundation’s applicant review process. It will not be used for any other purpose or given to an organization outside of the El Sol Foundation.

I acknowledge that I read the above authorization and approve of its contents.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Student** - After your parent/guardian completes the yellow sections above, ask your high school counselor or administrator to complete the blue sections below. Students are responsible for securing a response to this form and making sure the form is submitted with their application.

**(THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT’S SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER)**

Dear High School Counselor/Administrator,

The student named above is applying for the El Sol Foundation American Dream Scholarship. Please review and complete the blue areas below and return this form to the student with a copy of their official high school transcript. **Applications are due June 7, 2024.**

**Free and Reduced Meal Program Eligibility:** Is the student named above currently eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Meal Program?  Yes  No  N/A

**If your school does not offer the Free and Reduced Meal Program:** Can you confirm that the student named above receives financial aid and/or meets requirements similar to those set forth by the Federal Free and Reduced Meal program?  Yes  No  N/A

**Academic Criteria:** Student High School Overall Weighted GPA is \_\_\_\_\_

**Transcript:** Please include an official high school transcript for the student including grades and weighted GPA.

**Name of Authorized Administrator/Staff:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Job Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_