



# OFFICIAL APPLICATION

Please print or type answers on this official Smiley Scholars application. All requested documents on the checklist must be attached to this official application and returned by mail or courier service. No faxed or emailed applications will be accepted. All requested material must be received by the Tavis Smiley Foundation by September 30. The application is posted on the Tavis Smiley Foundation website at [www.youthtoleaders.org](http://www.youthtoleaders.org).

## Applicant Qualifications

■ Applicants must be United States citizens and attending an accredited college or university in the United States.

■ Applicants must have participated in any one of the following foundation programs: the Youth to Leaders conference series, the Tavis Smiley Foundation Leadership Institute or Youth 2 Leaders Ventures.

■ Be a high school senior

■ Applicants must plan to enroll college as full-time students.

■ Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 2.5 (C+) on a 4.0 system.

■ Applications will be judged on the following criteria: academic achievement, evidence of leadership and community service; and participation in Tavis Smiley Foundation programs.

## Personal Statement Essay (1- Essay 700 word minimum)

1. Please tell us about yourself. What is your definition of leadership? Describe your personal achievements and accomplishments.

2. Why do you wish to attend college? What field of study do you intend to pursue? How do you plan to distinguish yourself as a leader in the future?

3. What are your interests, involvement in school or community activities? How have you demonstrated public service?

## PART A: Applicant Personal Data

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security No \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent(s) / Guardian (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (If Different From Above): Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## PART B: Educational Background

Name of high school \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Public or Private \_\_\_\_\_

GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank (If applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

What college/university do you plan to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Expected date of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated tuition cost per year \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated room and board per year \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount of other scholarships received \_\_\_\_\_

Have you completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid/FAFSA form? Y \_\_\_ N \_\_\_



## How Did You Hear About Smiley Scholars?

(Check all that apply and include names if possible)

- Website
- TSF Leadership Institute
- College Guide
- Youth to Leaders Alumni
- Student Organization
- Teacher
- Word of Mouth
- Newspaper
- Email
- TSF Talented Tenth Tour
- Parent
- Other

## Contact Us

Tavis Smiley Foundation  
 Smiley Scholars  
 4434 Crenshaw Blvd.  
 Los Angeles, CA 90043  
 Telephone: (323) 290-1888  
 Email: y2l@tavistalks.com  
 www.youthtoleaders.org

## IMPORTANT

Applications missing any of these materials will not be considered. Letters of recommendation that arrive separately will not be accepted. \*Scholarship winners will be required to submit proof of full-time college enrollment before awards are disbursed.

## Part C: Extracurricular Activities/Community Service/Honors

Extracurricular Activities \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Honors and Awards \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Community Service \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Leadership \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Part D: Tavis Smiley Foundation Programs Participation

Describe your participation in any of the Tavis Smiley Foundation programs: Tavis Smiley Foundation Leadership Institute, Talented Tenth High School Tour or Youth to Leaders Ventures.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Part E: Certification and Authorization Release

I hereby certify that all information in this application is true and accurate. I am aware that any misrepresentation will result in the disqualification of my application. I attest that I am not related to any employees of the Tavis Smiley Foundation staff, the Tavis Smiley Foundation Board of Directors or The Smiley Group, Inc.™ I give the Tavis Smiley Foundation permission to release my transcripts, letters of recommendation, and/or application to scholarship donors, and to publicize my scholarship award if I am a recipient.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant

Date

I hereby certify that I have read this application and that the minor applicant has my permission to apply for this scholarship.

Signature of Parent/Guardian (Students under age 18)

Date

## Part F: Application Checklist

In one envelope, please include one copy of each of the following materials in the order listed:

- ✓ Completed Application Form
- ✓ Personal Essay
- ✓ Copy of Official High School Transcript
- ✓ Two Letters of Recommendation
- ✓ One Letter Must be an Academic Reference
- ✓ The Second Letter Must be Either a Personal or Community Involvement Reference
- ✓ Copy of College Letter of Acceptance\*
- ✓ A Recent Photo

**SEND APPLICATIONS TO:**  
 Tavis Smiley Foundation  
 Smiley Scholars  
 4434 Crenshaw Blvd.  
 Los Angeles, CA 90043