

Think IT Scholarship Application Requirements & Tips

WHO CAN APPLY

Genesys Works young professionals who are:

- Are not a Wallin Education Partners Scholar.
- Are a college student with two years remaining in your degree.
- Are currently enrolled full-time in college at a public or private not-for-profit college or university in MN, IA, WI, SD, or ND or an HBCU anywhere in the country.
- Are currently enrolled at a community college and plan to transfer to a four-year college for Fall 2021 or have two years remaining before degree completion.
- Have a college GPA of 2.0 or higher.
- Demonstrate a significant financial need with a family taxable income of \$75,000 or less. Students with special circumstances will also be considered.
- Are able and willing to maintain a GPA of 2.5 or higher to continue in the program.
- Have an interest in pursuing an IT-related major or career field (preferred, not required).

HOW TO APPLY

You will need to complete an online application.

1. To begin your application, visit:
<https://app.mykaleidoscope.com/scholarship/wallinthinkit>.
2. Click Apply to the right.
3. You do not need to finish the online application in one sitting; you can save your progress, exit, and return at any time during the application period.
4. For detailed instructions on how to apply please refer to the Think IT Applicant System Guide.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED TO APPLY

Information is listed in the order it appears on the application:

- Your final high school GPA
- **Optional:** The name and email address of one recommender, such as a supervisor, college professor, or mentor. *You should ask permission from your recommender first, so reach out to them soon! Recommenders will fill out a form and do not need to write a letter.*

- Involvement activities - e.g. activity or personal project, employment, family responsibility, volunteer activity - and your role, the description of activities, and hours involved
- A copy of your Fall 2020 college transcript. Transcripts must include current term GPA and cumulative GPA. These can be a screenshot of your portal or an unofficial transcript.
- Two short essays
- Family's Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) from your most recent taxes (if filed) or family's annual household income (if not filed)
- A copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR) from your most recent FAFSA or confirmation of your MN Dream Act filing. *If you are unable to complete the FAFSA, we will follow up with you upon receiving your application to determine an alternative option.*
- The deadline for the 2021 application is Monday, March 1st at 11:59pm.

TIPS FOR THE APPLICATION PROCESS

When asking for a recommendation, consider these tips:

- **Who should I ask?** Someone who can speak to your academic or professional accomplishments or status, e.g. a professor, former teacher, coach, supervisor, Genesys Works program coordinator, advisor, volunteer coordinator, etc.
- **When should I ask the ?** As soon as possible! At least two weeks before the application is due is a general guideline you should follow.
- **What will my recommender be asked?** Let your recommender know they will receive a form. On that form, they will be asked to indicate positive characteristics they believe describe you and explain why they chose those characteristics.
- **How should I ask them?** Prepare to share information on the scholarship and what is expected of them. Additionally, be prepared to share your resume and other relevant information. For example, if asking a professor, giving a list of classes you've taken with them and the grades you have received on projects, as well as in the overall course, can be helpful.
 - **What if I don't see them regularly because of the pandemic?** In virtual world, it is completely acceptable to ask via email. Let them know what you value about them, their class, and/or the support they've given you, tell them you are applying for the Think IT scholarship, ask if they would be willing to fill out a recommendation form by describing your positive characteristics, and remember to thank them!
- **How will they receive the form?** The recommendation form will come from Wallin

Education Partners after you submit their name and email on your application.

When writing your essays, consider these tips:

- Be honest, be specific, be concise.
- You'll be given two prompts and the purpose of the short essays are to get to know you a bit better. Make it personal by telling your story through responding and being yourself!
- Proofread your answer, and if you can, have a friend or family member look it over too.

QUESTIONS?

Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions!

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Read more about last year's winners:

- [Faiza Mah](#)
- [Pa Gar Vang](#)
- [Veronica Venegas](#)
- [Sue Xiong](#)