Best of the Batch Foundation
2017 Scholarship Program

Best of the Batch Foundation Scholarship Awards Program. Several scholarships will be awarded to seniors attending a high school in Western Pennsylvania. The purpose of the scholarship program is to provide financial assistance to college bound students enrolled for undergraduate study at approved colleges and universities of their choice. Awards are based on financial need, academic performance, leadership potential, and community involvement. Scholarships are awarded annually provided funds are available.

Operation Dough Nation (by Panera Bread): Two (2) $5,000 scholarships are available for one male and one female senior student-athlete attending high schools in the WPIAL district.

Dignity and Respect Champion: Six (6) $1,000 book scholarships are available for seniors attending high school in Western Pennsylvania.

Danyl Settles Scholarship: Two (2) $2,500 scholarships are available to one male and one female Steel Valley High School.

Best of the Batch: One (1) $6,000 scholarship is available for seniors attending any high school in Allegheny County.

Dr. Seuss Oh the Places You'll Go: One (1) $4,321.00 scholarship inspired by Dr. Seuss is available to students attending a college outside of Pennsylvania.

Healthy U N School (by UPMC Health Plan): One (1) $2,000 scholarship is available for a student who wants to help bring awareness to Health and Wellness topics such as healthy eating, childhood obesity, hygiene, stress/depression, etc.

CRITERIA

- Applicants must have permanent resident status in Western Pennsylvania.
- Applicants must be completing or have completed high school successfully with a **minimum GPA of 2.5** on a 4.0 scale.
- Applicants must be accepted as a full time student at a college or university for the upcoming academic semester.
- Applicants must demonstrate a **need for financial assistance.**
- Preference may be given to applicants who have participated in Best of the Batch programs.
- Students must apply for the 2017-2018 Federal Student Aid Application (FAFSA).
- Applicants submit a completed Scholarship Application by **Friday, April 14, 2017, at 5:00 pm.**

Applications will be reviewed and scholarship recipients will be selected by a Scholarship Committee of educators, board members, and staff.

* Best of the Batch Foundation will accept only 5 applications per high school. Applicants must have the endorsement of their Guidance Counselor on their application attesting they are a qualified fit for this scholarship program. ***Best of the Batch Foundation strongly suggests that each high school present this opportunity to five (5) of the strongest applicants that match this program's guidelines.***

*Applications may be downloaded from the Best of the Batch Foundation website at www.batchfoundation.org/scholarships

*Award notification will be given by June 2017 by phone or mail. Scholarship funds will be paid in August, 2017 for the student's first semester and will be paid directly to the college or university. It will be the student's responsibility to submit to the Foundation at that time an invoice for the second semester tuition and fees, student ID number and college information. Scholarship awardees must provide their student ID number, the correct mailing address of their institution, and the department where their scholarship check is to be received.

BEST OF THE BATCH FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2016

Application Postmark Deadline: April 14, 2017

Indicate which scholarship/stipend you are applying for (choose two only).

☐ Operation Dough ☐ D&R Champion ☐ Danyl Settles ☐ Best of the Batch ☐ Dr. Seuss ☐ Healthy U N School

Please type or print all information EXCEPT signatures.

Applicant Information

Last Name _____ First _____ M.I. ____ Nickname _____

Date of Birth _____/_____/_____ Phone _____ Email _____

Gender ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other Twitter/Facebook _____

Permanent Home Mailing Address

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Are you the first person in your family to attend college? ☐ Yes ☐ No

For statistical purposes only

☐ American Indian / Alaska Native ☐ Black / African American ☐ Multi-Racial ☐ White

☐ Asian ☐ Hispanic / Latino ☐ Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander

Current School Information

High School Attending _____ City _____ Phone _____

High school graduation date _____/_____/_____ GPA (on a 4.0 scale) _____

Class rank _____ of _____ (# of students) ACT Score _____ SAT Score _____

(A copy of your ACT or SAT score sheet on official high school transcript is required.)

Did you play a WPIAL Varsity Sport? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes indicate sport(s) _____

Family Information

Name of first parent / guardian who assists with expenses

Last Name _____ First _____ Attended College? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Name of second parent / guardian who assists with expenses

Last Name _____ First _____ Attended College? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Did the student complete their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

List Family Gross Annual Income from your 2016 Income Tax Form 1040 $_____

(If selected, recipients will need to verify annual household income is under $85,000 by supplying page 1 of their 2016 IRS Tax Form)

College / University Information

Name of postsecondary school you plan to attend. (If unknown, please list in order of preference the schools to which you have applied.) No abbreviations.

1. _____ City _____ State _____
2. _____ City _____ State _____
3. _____ City _____ State _____

☐ 4 yr College or University ☐ 2 yr Community / Junior College ☐ Other, please explain _____

Potential course of study _____ Have you applied for other scholarships / grants ☐ Yes ☐ No

Will you be a full time student? ☐ Yes ☐ No Will you live on campus? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Goals and Aspirations

Make a BRIEF video or written statement of your plans as they relate to your educational and career objectives. You may also share anything else you would like the committee to know about you.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Essay Question

On a separate sheet, please write an essay 250 – 500 words long answering the following question.
If you are applying for the Healthy U N School Scholarship, skip to essay question #2.

1. Describe how volunteer or community service has shaped who you are today and what community service has taught you. Also, discuss in your essay any challenges or obstacles you have faced and overcome in life and how this will help you succeed in college and beyond.

2. ONLY IF APPLYING FOR "Healthy U N School"
   Health and wellness topics such as healthy eating, childhood obesity, hygiene, stress/depression, etc., are becoming a larger concern in schools. If you could create a health and wellness class or program for your peers, what would you focus on? Explain from your school experience why this area is important.

Statement of Accuracy

I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me to Best of the Batch Foundation is true, correct and without forgery. I also consent that if chosen as a scholarship winner my picture may be taken and used to promote the Foundation's scholarship program. (Winner may waive photo due to unusual or compelling circumstances.)
I acknowledge that decisions are final. I certify that I meet eligibility requirements of the program as described in the guidelines and the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If requested, I will provide proof of information. Falsification of information may result in termination of any award granted. Best of the Batch Foundation has the sole responsibility for selecting recipients based on criteria as set forth in the program's description. This application becomes the property of Best of the Batch Foundation. (It is recommended you keep a copy for your files.)
I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to Best of the Batch Foundation scholarship policy, I must provide evidence of enrollment / registration at the post-secondary institution of my choice before scholarship funds can be awarded.

Applicant's Signature _____ **Date** _____

Application Checklist

Every year, applications are rejected because they are incomplete. Don't let that happen to you! Use this checklist to make sure your application includes all required materials. This application is complete and valid only when all of the following materials have been received:

THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENTS ARE REQUIRED EXCEPT AS NOTED TO COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION

- ☐ Completed Application Form, signed and dated
- ☐ Statement of Support by Guidance Counselor, signed
- ☐ Goals and Aspirations Statement
- ☐ Transcript and SAT/ACT Test Scores
- ☐ Essay
- ☐ Resume / List of Activities
- ☐ Peer Recommendation
- ☐ Teacher Appraisal and Recommendation
- ☐ Required Financial Information
- ☐ FAFSA Filed or will file (www.fafsa.ed.gov)

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT BY GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

I hereby affirm that this application meets the criteria set forth by this scholarship program and that I support this application to Best of the Batch Foundation.

Name of Guidance Counselor supporting: _____

High School: _____

Contact information (email and phone):_____

Signature of Guidance Counselor: _____ Date: _____

MAIL COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKAGE TO THE FOUNDATION AT:
Best of the Batch Foundation
Attn: Scholarship Committee
2000 West Street
Munhall, PA 15120

REMINDER:
The deadline for this application to be received by the Foundation is:
Friday, April 14, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Student's Last Name: _____ Student's First Name: _____

Teacher Appraisal and Recommendation – APPRAISAL FORM

Teacher Information

We are grateful for your assistance on behalf of this applicant. We are interested in what you think is important about the applicant's academic and personal qualifications. Your recommendation will remain confidential. Best of the Batch Foundation does not provide access to application material to the candidate or to his/her family. **Please submit appraisal and recommendation in signed, sealed envelope and return to the applicant.**

Teacher's name_____Position/Department_____

School name _____ E-mail _____

Background Information

List the course(s) you have taught this student, and the level of course difficulty (A.P., accelerated, honors, regular, elective, etc.):

_____

How long have you known the applicant, and in what context? _____

What are the first words that come to your mind to describe the applicant? _____

Appraisal

RATINGS: Compared to other college-bound students in the same class, how do you rate this student?

	Below Average	**Average**	**Good**	**Excellent**	**Outstanding (Top 10%)**	**No Basis for Judgment**
Creative, Original Thought						
Motivation						
Maturity						
Independence, Initiative						
Intellectual Ability						
Academic Achievement						
Written Expression of Ideas						
Participation in activities						
Adjustment to new situations						
Effective Class Discussion						
Disciplined						
Work/Study Habits						
Potential for Growth						

Recommendation

∗ Please write an assessment of the candidate's intellectual promise and personal characteristics. ∗

We are particularly interested in the candidate's potential to be successful and any unique accomplishments or life experiences that will help us differentiate this student from others. If needed, please attach an additional sheet with your comments.

Teacher's Name (Print) _____ Teacher's Signature_____

∗THIS FORM AND THE WRITTEN RESPONSE MUST BE SUBMITTED AND SEALED IN AN ENVELOPE∗

Peer Appraisal and Recommendation – APPRAISAL FORM

Peer Information

We are grateful for your assistance on behalf of this applicant. We are interested in what you think is important about the applicant's academic and personal qualifications. Your recommendation will remain confidential. Best of the Batch Foundation does not provide access to application material to the candidate or to his/her family. **Please submit appraisal and recommendation in signed, sealed envelope and return to the applicant.**

Peer's name_____

School name _____ E-mail _____

Background Information

How long have you known the applicant, and in what capacity? _____ Years _____ Months

_____

What are the first words that come to your mind to describe the applicant? _____

What are the applicant's significant talents or special abilities? _____

_____

What is one strength and one weakness of the applicant? _____

_____

Appraisal

RATINGS: Compared to other college-bound students in the same class, how do you rate this student?

	Below Average	Average	Good	Excellent	Outstanding (Top 10%)	No Basis for Judgment
Creative, Original Thought						
Motivation						
Maturity						
Independence, Initiative						
Intellectual Ability						
Academic Achievement						
Written Expression of Ideas						
Participation in activities						
Adjustment to new situations						
Effective Class Discussion						
Disciplined						
Work/Study Habits						
Potential for Growth						

Recommendation

∗ Please describe a time when the applicant changed your thinking or actions. ∗

Also, at this time you may add any further comments you wish about the applicant. If you can compare the applicant with others who have attended school or who are applying for scholarships, we would welcome such a comparison.

∗THIS FORM AND THE WRITTEN RESPONSE MUST BE SUBMITTED AND SEALED IN AN ENVELOPE∗