



FUTURE ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP TRUST (FAST) APPLICATION 2023

A generous gift from Tasso Katselas funds the award of two FAST scholarships. The purpose of FAST is to award post-secondary scholarships to students of Propel Schools who have demonstrated success, resilience, and are poised to carry forward Propel Schools' values. The awards are made to 8th grade students as a demonstration of our belief in their bright future. A total of \$16,500 in scholarship monies will be received by the awarded Propel scholars during their high school and college years.

Eligibility Requirements

- Only 8th grade students who have been at Propel Schools for four years are eligible to apply. The fourth year can be the year of application.
- Recipients are not required to attend a Propel high school.
- FAST Scholars must provide annual updates to the Propel Schools Foundation by completing at least 40 hours of service preferably at a Propel location each school year and submitted a standard form signed by your supervisor.
- Recipients must complete high school in four years and be accepted to a four-year college or other institution of post-secondary learning to receive the remaining scholarship monies.

Disbursement Schedule

HIGH SCHOOL	POST SECONDARY
Following successful completion of 9 th , 10 th and 11 th grade and volunteer service, awardees will receive \$500 each year to be used to support their personal growth and education.	Payments are planned on the following schedule: 1 st year - \$3,000 2 nd year - \$3,000 3 rd year - \$3,000 Last year - \$6,000

All required elements are due no later than **Friday, January 27 at 11:59 P.M.** No late submissions will be accepted. The online application – a Script form – must be completed in one sitting and submitted electronically. **Do NOT “save for later.”** No paper documents will be accepted. Applicants must submit the following four components in the online application located at: bit.ly/PropelScholarApp. This universal 2022 Scholarship Application can also be found on our Scholar Access Page: www.propelschools.org/Content/100. Scholarship winners will be notified by March 31, 2023. All Scholarship recipients are expected to attend the Power of Propel Gala on in early June 2023 at Carnegie Museum Music Hall Foyer at 6:00 PM.



FAST SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Script Form (Online Application)

Applicants must complete all required fields on the Script Form, including basic applicant information, seven (7) short answer responses limited to one paragraph for each answer, and assurance that you understand the plagiarism policy. We recommend drafting your responses to the short answer questions in a separate Word Document so that you can review, edit, and save your responses in a separate Word Document until you are ready to submit the complete online application.

Short Answer Questions:

1. Why would you like to attend college?
2. Describe two other personal goals you have (in addition to going to college).
3. Describe two strengths you possess as a student.
4. Describe two strengths you possess as a member of the Propel community.
5. Describe your Propel activities and achievements for this school year.
6. Describe two achievements you are proud of in your life outside of Propel.
7. Name one characteristic, skill, or talent that you believe may set you apart from other applicants for this scholarship.

2. Essay Response

This section requires a two-step process. Applicants must submit one essay response between 400-600 words. Essays will be copied and pasted into the online application. Before submitting, applicant must review the essay with their school's Instructional Coach or Middle School Assistant Principal. The reviewer is required to sign the attached page, acknowledging that they worked with the applicant on their essay.

Essay Prompt (posed by a former FAST scholar):

How has your education impacted your life and how do you think it will impact you in the future?

3. Letter of Recommendation

Provide a one-page letter of recommendation from a non-familial adult outside of Propel Schools that has worked with you directly and can speak to your character. This will help the review committee to learn about you in a holistic sense – how you interact with your teachers and peers, how you approach the learning process, and what motivates/ excites you. The letter can be typed but should be physically signed by the writer. *Provide "brag sheet" of accomplishments and goals to assist the writer.*

4. Signature Page

Applicant is to review all completed parts of their application with a parent/guardian. Reviewer is required to sign the attached page, acknowledging their approval of the application materials. All three signature lines are required to be completed.



PROPEL SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

**THE ONLINE APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETED BY FRIDAY,
JANUARY 27, 2023 AT 11:59 P.M.**

Each school's Principal will select up to two candidates to move forward in the FAST application process. This will be based on the quality of the essay; student's demonstrated success, resilience, and the poise to carry forward Propel Schools' values.

IN-PERSON INTERVIEW (Professional Dress Required)

Based on the scores of your initial application, selected finalists for scholarships will be interviewed in-person at Propel Schools' Southside location by the Propel Scholarship Committee between March 6 - 10. We will inform applicants of their status and the date of the interview by February 24th. There will not be any pre-scheduled times for virtual interviews. If a virtual interview is necessary, the scholar will need to specifically request a virtual interview when they are notified of being a finalist.

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Student's Name: _____

Current Propel School: _____

Student Email: _____

Parent(s)/guardian(s) name(s): _____

SIGNATURES:

Student Applicant Signature	Date
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Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
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Instructional Coach/Assistant Principal Signature	Date
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Questions? Contact Emily Zapach with Propel Schools Foundation at
EmilyZapach@propelschools.org

2023 FAST Application Rubric

The scores can be in 0.5-point increments.

I. Short Answer Questions – Each Question Receives A Score

0.5 - 1	1.5 - 2.0	2.5 - 3
Questions 1 & 2		
The applicant does not clearly state their educational and personal goals for the future. Their ambition, drive, passion and commitment are unclear to the selection committee, in part because they do not indicate how their plans or personal qualities support their path.	The applicant generally states their educational and personal goals for the future. They demonstrate some ambition, drive and/or passion, but may not indicate how plans or personal qualities support their path. Their commitment to achieving their goals may also be somewhat unclear.	The applicant clearly states and describes their educational and personal goals for the future. They demonstrate obvious ambition, drive and/or passion, clarify how their plans supports their path, describe a personal quality that will help them reach their goals, and show genuine commitment to achieving them.
#1 SCORE: _____ #2 SCORE: _____		
Questions 3 & 4 (Reflection)		
Responses are not well-written or as in-depth as it could have been with answers to questions that were not well thought out.	Responses are well-written and thoughtful but could have been more focused and in-depth. Response provides some insight into the applicant's character, strengths, and goals.	Responses are well-written with detailed answers that are thoughtful and focused. Responses provide insight into the applicant's character, strengths, and goals.
#3 SCORE: _____ # 4 SCORE: _____		
Questions 5, 6, & 7 (Experiences & Accomplishments)		
Limited participation in extra-curricular and volunteer activities. No leadership roles. Describes minimal community involvement. The applicant shared no accomplishments or awards reflecting their drive, initiative or committed effort. They did not share how their hobbies or passions make them unique.	Some balanced participation in extra-curricular and volunteer activities. Held a leadership role in at least 1 activity. Aware of one's own ability to impact the lives of others. Includes basic descriptions of involvement and demonstrates meaningful commitment. The applicant shared a few accomplishments & awards reflecting their drive, initiative or committed effort. They have shared hobbies and passions, presenting the committee with a general sense of what makes them unique.	Balanced participation in extra-curricular and volunteer activities. Held a leadership role in multiple activities. Interest/talent/efforts and experiences align with plans for their future. Deeply understands impact of contributions on themselves and on the lives of others. The applicant shared several accomplishments & awards reflecting their drive, initiative or committed effort. They have richly demonstrated what is important to them by sharing their hobbies and passions, presenting the committee with a clear vision of the applicant's individuality.
#5 SCORE: _____ #6 SCORE: _____ #7 SCORE: _____		

2023 FAST Application Rubric

II. Essay Response

0.5 - 1	1.5 - 2.0	2.5 - 3
Focus & Structure		
Main idea/ thesis statement somewhat strays from the prompt with uneven idea progression. Topic is clear but overly simplistic.	Main idea/ thesis statement is relevant to the prompt. Response includes some materials that are unsupportive of main idea and has adequate idea progression.	Main idea is clear and relevant to the prompt and supported throughout. Smooth idea progression and strong transitions.
SCORE: _____		
Content		
Content is largely irrelevant to the prompt or does not clearly communicate their story.	Adequate usage of narrative techniques to communicate story.	Communicates a compelling story.
SCORE: _____		
Language & Grammar		
Significant misspellings or grammar errors. Language is too casual and shows a vague misunderstanding.	Few misspellings or grammar errors. Language shows general mastery of the material through word choices.	No misspellings or grammar errors. Language is expansive, non-repetitive, and proves mastery through word choices.
SCORE: _____		

IV. Letter of Recommendation

0.5 - 1	1.5 - 2.0	2.5 - 3
Letter of Recommendation is submitted from a non-familial adult within Propel Schools and speaks generically to their character.	Letter of Recommendation is submitted from a non-familial adult outside of Propel Schools and speaks generically to their character OR Letter of Recommendation is submitted from a non-familial adult within the Propel Schools Community and can clearly speak to their character.	Letter of Recommendation is submitted from a non-familial adult outside of Propel Schools that worked with the applicant directly and can clearly speak to their character.
SCORE: _____		