



Children of Persia Scholarship Program

2009-2010 School Year

Introduction

Children of Persia (COP) was established in 1999 with the simple objective of promoting the well-being of Iranian children by providing assistance in areas of healthcare, education, and social services. The aim of COP is to reach out and help underprivileged Iranian children around the world in an effective and reliable manner. COP identifies and evaluates specific projects, especially those affecting the welfare of children who are in need of assistance.

While many Iranians enjoy a very prosperous life outside Iran, there are those who struggle to meet their basic needs. One of the areas that COP is focusing on is education. We truly believe that knowledge is power. Through our personal experiences, we have realized that those individuals who have received help have become strong advocates when it comes to helping others.

With the help of our enthusiastic volunteers in the United States, COP has established a Scholarship Program that can be presented to students who experience financial difficulties. Our hope is to see these young people develop the ability to help themselves and subsequently help others through their success. We believe that the future is in the hands of our highly motivated young generation. Supporting this potential asset would bring us closer to seeing a brighter future for our community and younger generation.

Eligibility Requirements

The COP Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to college level students with Iranian descent. Applicants must excel academically, participate in community service activities, and demonstrate financial need. The applicant must be a U.S. citizen or be lawfully residing in the United States. The recipients may use these scholarships to attend an accredited college or university of their choice within the United States. COP Scholarships are not limited to any specific field or career objective and may be used to pursue any academic discipline. Applications are screened during the month of April by an independent committee that consists of a panel of distinguished scholars. Finalists are interviewed



by members of the selection committee. Scholarship winners are selected based on the information received through the application and interviews.

Basic Requirements

Applicants should meet the following requirements to be eligible for the COP Scholarship:

- Be of Iranian descent
- Be a U.S. citizen or lawfully reside in the United States
- Demonstrate financial need
- Attend an accredited American college or university in a full-time undergraduate degreed program and have completed at least 15 credit hours.
- Have good academic standing (GPA of 3.0 or higher)
- Complete and submit a COP Scholarship Application Form, including:
 - a. Two letters of recommendation; at least one letter should be from a teacher or other school professional,
 - b. A one page essay about his/her dreams and aspirations, and
 - c. An official transcript with the school seal.

Important Application Dates

March 2, 2009 - COP Scholarship Program starts accepting applications for the 2009- 2010 school year. The attached Application Form will also be available for download from the COP web site (<http://www.childrenofpersia.org>).

April 20, 2009 - Final postmarked deadline in order to be considered for the 2009-2010 COP Scholarship Program. Application materials must be mailed in one packet to:

COP Scholarship Program
P.O. Box 2602
Montgomery Village, MD 20886

Transcripts and letters of recommendation should not be sent separately. Incomplete, e-mailed, or faxed applications will not be considered. Winners of the scholarship will be notified by July 15, 2009.

Scholarship Conditions

COP Scholarships may be used to supplement existing benefits from the student's college or university, or from other foundations or organizations. Recipients may use the scholarship to cover the costs of tuition, fees, room, and board. Funds are dispersed directly to the college or university.

If the applicant is claimed as a dependent on the federal income tax return of another person, then that other person's financial resources will be considered in assessing financial need. Federal tax returns of the applicant, and possibly of any person claiming the applicant as a dependent, should be included in the application packet.

A minimum of five students will be granted the COP Scholarship and will receive \$2,000 for the 2009-2010 school year (\$1,000 for Fall 2009 semester and \$1,000 for Spring 2010 assuming the GPA requirement of 3.0 and full-time status is maintained). *COP Scholarship is for 2009-2010 school year only.* COP reevaluates the community needs and its funding resources, and adjusts this program on a yearly basis.

Children of Persia Scholarship Program Application Form

SEND TO: COP Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 2602, Montgomery Village, MD 20886

*Applicants must be of Iranian descent, lawfully reside in the United States, and attend an accredited American college or university in a degreed program. Application materials must be mailed in one packet to **COP Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 2602, Montgomery Village, MD 20886**. Transcripts and letters of recommendation should not be sent under separate cover. Incomplete, e-mailed or faxed applications will not be considered.*

Please type or print in black ink only

- I am submitting my application by April 20, 2009 to be considered for the 2009-2010 Children of Persia Scholarship Program.

PERSONAL DATA

Full Legal Name

Last First Middle Male/Female

Permanent Address

Street

City State Zip

Date of Birth Telephone # Cell #

E-Mail Address

Social Security Number _____ - _____ - _____

Are you a US Citizen? Yes No If no, what is your legal status? _____

How do you establish your Iranian descent? Iranian Father Iranian Mother Other _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name _____

School Address _____

Telephone _____ FAX _____

Number of Credits Completed _____ GPA _____

(Continue on page 2)

Children of Persia Scholarship Program Application Form (PAGE 2)

Please respond to the following questions. Attach your typed responses to this form.

1. Please list your extracurricular, community, employment or other activities in order of their importance to you. Indicate the dates you participated in the activity, positions held and the number of hours per week you spend on each activity. We realize that the way you spend your time outside the classroom may be affected by factors beyond your control, such as the need to work.
2. List any significant awards or honors you have received for academic or extracurricular achievements. Are you eligible to receive financial aid from your school?
3. Essay: You must respond to both (A) and (B). Your essay should be no longer than one page single spaced.
 - (A) Choose the one activity you listed as most important in question #1 and tell us why it is significant.
 - (B) Explain your financial need. If applicable, include any state or federal financial aids that you qualify for.
4. Please ask two individuals who know you well to submit letters of recommendation. At least one letter should be from a teacher or other school professional.
5. Please submit an official transcript with application materials. You must be ready to provide supporting documentation if requested.

We suggest that you keep copies of your application materials.

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN

Father/Male Guardian

Name

Address (if different from address on page 1)

Occupation

2008 Adjusted Gross Income (IRS 1040)

Estimated Adjusted Gross Income (2009)

Mother/Female Guardian

Name

Address (if different from address on page 1)

Occupation

2008 Adjusted Gross Income (IRS 1040)

Estimated Adjusted Gross Income (2009)

Are you being claimed as dependent on your parents/guardians tax returns? Yes No

Parent's marital status: Single Married Separated Divorced Widowed

If applicable, please indicate with whom you reside: _____

Ages of applicant's siblings (if applicable) _____ # of siblings attending college next year _____

We certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of our knowledge. Additionally, the applicant is still responsible for applying to all scholarship programs for which they may be interested. Applicants may be asked to provide information about the non-custodial parent or step-parent financial contributions. If required, we agree to provide proof of this information, including copies of income tax returns. We realize that if documentation is not provided, the applicant may be deemed ineligible for this scholarship.

Applicant's Signature/Date

Parent or Guardian's Signature/Date