

## Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of California 2020-21 Scholarship Application Instructions

**SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS** There will be three awards: one \$5000 scholarship, one \$3000 scholarship and one \$2000 scholarship.

### DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

All application materials must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Monday March 2, 2020..

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Scholarship applicants must be high school seniors in the 2019-2020 academic year.
2. Scholarship applicants must be either a member of the California Mayflower Society or be descended from a parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, aunt, uncle, grand-aunt, grand-uncle, great- grand-aunt or great-grand-uncle who is a living life member or dues paying member of the California Mayflower Society.

There are NO restrictions regarding the state of residence of the California Society member or of the scholarship applicant.

### APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Download and save this file and the Scholarship Application file.

Save both of these files before you begin filling out the Scholarship Application. (If you do not, the information you insert may not save properly.)

Name your Scholarship Application file as: "your first name-last name-scholarship"  
For example: "John-Doe-Scholarship"

2. Fill out the Scholarship Application form by typing directly into each line of the form.
3. After double checking that you have provided all the requested information, save the Scholarship Application Form before going on to the next step.

#### 4. Exploring your Mayflower ancestry.

Part 1. Write a letter from one of your Mayflower ancestors to his or her family as if they were in England or Holland. In your letter, describe your ancestor's experience as a member of the colony and discuss the way the Mayflower Compact affected the life of your Mayflower ancestor in Plymouth Colony.

To prepare for writing your letter, find out what is known about your Mayflower ancestor at <http://www.mayflowerhistory.com/mayflower-passenger-list/> and read the Mayflower Compact and study its significance at <http://www.landofthebrave.info/mayflower-compact.htm>

Write the letter in your own words.

If you choose to use any text from these sources or from of any other external sources use quotation marks, credit your source and quote nothing longer than one sentence.

Part 2. Write a personal essay of no more than 500 words that describes how exploring the experience of your Mayflower ancestor and studying the Mayflower Compact have influenced your own personal values and your future plans.

Use 14 pt Times New Roman type for your letter and essay.

5. After you have completed and proofread your letter and essay, copy and paste the letter and the essay under the headings at the bottom of the Application Form. Keep the letter in 14 pt. Times New Roman type.

6. Save and print your Scholarship Application Form, now including your letter to your Mayflower ancestor and your personal essay. You will submit this form both electronically as an email and via the United States Postal Service as part of a mail package.

7. Assemble the other required application materials:

1. Obtain a copy of your high school transcript, including first semester senior year grades, your GPA and your class rank if that is available.
2. Take either the ACT or the SAT test, including the writing sample. Make sure you take the test early enough to obtain your results by March 2, 2020. Print out a copy of the results of your test that is sent to you online or scan in a copy of the test results that are mailed to you.
3. Ask one of your teachers who knows your academic work well to write a letter of recommendation for you. Have them give you their letter in a sealed envelope which they have signed across the seal. Make sure they know they must get their recommendation to you by March 2,
4. Ask a person who is not a family member who knows you well to write a character reference letter for you. Have them give you their letter in a sealed envelope which they have signed across the seal. Make sure they know they must get their reference to you by March 2.

## SUBMIT YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION MATERIALS

### 1. ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Send an email to [larrybeston@sbcglobal.net](mailto:larrybeston@sbcglobal.net)

In the subject line of the email, write your name and "California Mayflower Scholarship"

As an attachment, send ONLY your completed Scholarship Application Form, including your letter to your Mayflower ancestor and your personal essay.

### 2. MAIL SUBMISSION

A complete application package includes five items:

1. Your Scholarship Application form including the letter from your Mayflower ancestor and your personal essay
2. Your high school transcript
3. A printout or photocopy of the results of your SAT or ACT test that are sent to you.
4. Your signed letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope
5. Your signed character reference letter in a sealed envelope

Via the USPS, mail the complete application package to Scholarship Secretary

Mr. Larry Beston  
Scholarship Secretary  
California Mayflower Society  
57 Minarets Ave  
Clovis, Ca 93611-7225

**DEADLINE** Application materials must be sent electronically and postmarked by 11:59 PM on Monday March 2, 2020. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

**CONFIRMATION** Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of their materials.

**EVALUATION** Applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Committee of at least three California Mayflower Society members drawn from different colonies in different parts of the state.

Evaluation Criteria (100-points maximum)

- Mayflower Ancestor Letter and Personal Essay 50
- High School Transcript 15
- High School Activities and Awards 8
- Community Service and Employment 7
- ACT/SAT scores 5
- Academic Letter of Recommendation 5
- Character Reference Letter 5
- Application form – completeness 5

**NOTIFICATION** Scholarship recipients will be notified by phone with a confirming letter; all other applicants will receive a letter.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS** Scholarship winners will be announced publicly at the June 2020 meeting of the California Mayflower Society Board of Assistants and in the summer issue of the *California Quarterly*.

**DISBURSEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS** Funds are disbursed at the beginning of the first and second semester of enrollment. Scholarship recipients will receive instructions about how to obtain their scholarships in the letter confirming their award.

**OPTIONAL GAP YEAR** Scholarship recipients may choose to take a gap year between high school graduation and college; however 2020-2021 scholarship recipients must enroll in a post-secondary program no later than Fall of 2021.

**QUESTIONS** If you have questions, email the Education/Scholarship Secretary at [larrybeston@sbcglobal.net](mailto:larrybeston@sbcglobal.net)