

**Microsoft disAbility Scholarship**

The disAbility Scholarship at Microsoft delivers on the mission of Microsoft’s cross disability employee resource group to empower and enable people with disabilities. This scholarship enables high school students with disabilities to go to college and target a career in the technology industry. In addition, we hope to contribute to increasing the pool of persons living with a disability enrolling in higher education and, in the long term, decrease the unemployment bias for this demographic.

This scholarship will be awarded to promising high school seniors who plan to attend a vocational or academic college and have a financial need.  The amount of this renewable scholarship to be awarded is $5,000 per year, up to $20,000 total, which is paid through the Seattle Foundation on behalf of the disAbility Employee Resource Group (ERG) at Microsoft to the recipient’s school’s Financial Aid Office.

**All completed applications must be postmarked by March15.**

**Scholarship Requirements**

To be considered for the Microsoft disAbility Scholarship, you must:

1. Be a current high school senior living with a disability (as defined by [WHO](http://www.who.int/topics/disabilities/en/)), whether that be visual, hearing, mobility, cognitive, speech or other disability.
2. Plan to attend an undergraduate program in a 2 or 4-year University/College or Technical College in the fall of the academic year following high-school graduation.  Schools must be in the USA or have a USA-Affiliate for financial transactions (contact Seattle Foundation to verify non-USA school’s eligibility).
3. Declare an approved major in **engineering**, **computer science**, **computer information systems**, **law, business, or a related field** (e.g. paralegal, pre-law, finance, business administration, or marketing).
4. Demonstrate a passion for technology.
5. Demonstrate leadership at school and/or in the community.
6. Have a high school cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
7. Require financial assistance to attend college.
8. Enrollment status must be full-time or half-time.

**Application Requirements**

To apply for a Microsoft disAbility Scholarship, print and fill out the [application](http://www.microsoft.com/global/en-us/diversity/programs/RichMedia/Microsoft%20DisAbility%20Scholarship%20Application%20v.FINAL.docx).  Enclose it in an envelope with the following items:

* ***Résumé.*** Your résumé should include the following information:
1. Extracurricular activities (school and community related)
2. Honors and awards that you have received (if possible, include awards that are technology related)
3. Work experience
* ***Picture of yourself.*** *(optional)*
* ***Transcript.*** Include an official sealed copy of your current academic transcript. (If selected, unofficial copies will not be accepted.)
* ***Three essays.***
1. In no more than 500 words, describe how you plan to be engaged in the technology industry or technology law or policy in your career.
2. In no more than 500 words, please share your vision of how Microsoft can innovate its future devices and services solutions to creatively & successfully support those living with disabilities in the workplace and in daily life to reach their potential.
3. In no more than 250 words, describe your financial need for this scholarship.
* ***Two letters of recommendation.***
1. At least one letter must be from a faculty or staff member at your school.
2. Letters of recommendation should be original and should not be duplicates of college recommendation letters. Do not include relatives as references. (Letters must be on letterhead.)
* ***Complete Application Form***
Fill out the entire Application Form at the end of this page. You can type the information or print clearly.  When you are done, print Sections I and II of the Application Form and make sure that you sign and date the verification on the 4th page.

***Mail completed applications*** to the following address by March 15. Selection will be complete, and those selected to receive the Microsoft disAbility Scholarship will be notified at the end of April.

The Seattle Foundation
Attn: Scholarships
1601 Fifth Ave, Suite 1900
Seattle, WA 98101
scholarships@seattlefoundation.org

**Application Form**

**Section 1**

**Name:**

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

**Street Address:** Click here to enter text.

**City Address:** Click here to enter text.

**State:** Click here to enter text.

**Zip Code:** Click here to enter text.

**Phone Number:** Click here to enter text.

**Email Address:** Click here to enter text.

**High School Name:** Click here to enter text.

**Graduation Date:** Click here to enter a date.

**What colleges and universities have you applied to?**

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

**Which colleges and universities have you already been accepted to (if applicable)?**

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

**College or university you plan to attend (if known):** Click here to enter text.

**List any other scholarships you’ve been awarded:**

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

Click here to enter text.

**How did you hear about this scholarship? (Select one)**

Choose an item.

**Application Form**

**Section 2**

**Verification:**

I affirm that the information included with my application is true and accurate in all respects and that I intend to pursue a degree in higher education. I also understand that, if I am selected, the awarding of funds is contingent upon my fulltime enrollment at an accredited institution and that the funds will be paid directly to the institution and used toward the cost of my education.

Click here to enter text.

**Signature**

Click here to enter a date.

**Date**

\*\* Please ensure that your application packet includes all of the required information and documents before sending. We will not accept additional documents sent separate from the original application packet, and only complete application packets will be reviewed.