



Laura Whittaker  
Warming Hearts  
Scholarship



## Scholarship Application

Dear Laura Whittaker Warming Hearts Scholarship Applicant:

The Laura Whittaker Warming Hearts Scholarship Committee would first like to congratulate you on reaching this point of your school career! This year HANDSnFEET Foundation will be awarding two (2) scholarships valued at \$2,500 each to eligible high school students who are affected by housing instability or financial instability.

The name Warming Hearts was an easy choice. Our Motto at HANDSnFEET is to “warm the hands and feet of our neighbors in need.” When we decided to name our Scholarship program in honor of Laura Whittaker, it only made sense to name it the Warming Hearts Scholarship. There was no warmer heart than Laura’s, and she warmed the hearts of everyone she came in contact with.

To properly complete the Laura Whittaker Warming Hearts Scholarship application, please complete the following:

1. Ensure your application is complete in its entirety.
2. Two sealed Letters of Reference.

Letters can be from a teacher, coach, guidance counselor, employer, school administrator, community leader, and/or religious/cultural leader. The scholarship committee will not accept letters of reference from family members.

3. Current High School Transcripts (sealed)
4. Essay Questions
5. Submit your completed application along with the above items by **March 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year**.
6. A phone interview will be required if selected to move to the final round of the scholarship decision process.
7. Letter of Acceptance from the institution you will attend.

If selected to receive the scholarship award, the letter of acceptance must be provided by an accredited undergraduate school of higher learning within the United States prior to receiving the award.

All requested information must be included. Incomplete or late applications will be disqualified.



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The scholarships are awarded to Mecklenburg County School students who graduate high school in the current school year, are current residents of Mecklenburg County School District, and plan to enroll in an institution of higher learning in the fall of the same year (4-year or 2-year program).

Completed applications must be received at the following address by **March 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year** and must include all items requested in the checklist.

\*Scholarship funds will be sent directly to the institution the student will attend.

### Important Dates:

Application Start Date – January 1<sup>st</sup>

Application Due Date – March 31<sup>st</sup>

Interview Process (if selected) – Month of April

Scholarship Awarded – Month of May/June

Mail to:

**HANDSnFEET Foundation**  
**ATTENTION: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**1218 S Church Street**  
**CHARLOTTE, NC 28203**

*\*applications will only be accepted through U.S. mail*

## Application Information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Applicant is currently enrolled at:

High School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Other school attended, if applicable:

Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Name & Address of college or university applying to & major:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Be sure to include a copy of your Letter of Acceptance. If not yet received be prepared to provide letter of acceptance if you should be selected.)

Why did you choose the college/university and major?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated first year costs:

Tuition \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Student Fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Books & Supplies \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Room & Board \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Explain if more than \$500)

## Family Financial Background:

Based on your parent/guardian most recent Form 1040 Federal Income Tax Return:

What is the Total Income as listed on Line 22? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

What is the Adjusted Gross Income as listed on Line 35? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Family Members in Household: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any financial hardships which you would like considered? (Examples: family circumstances, unemployment, illness or medical emergency, or any other extenuating circumstances)

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Did you move or change schools frequently? If so, please list schools attended.

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## Academic Achievement:

Your cumulative high school grade point average is: \_\_\_\_\_

(Be sure to include a sealed copy of your transcripts)

List below the courses you are currently taking and the anticipated grade at the end of the semester:

Course Name	Anticipated Grade
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

List any other academic achievements you feel are important to this application (academic awards, honor rolls, etc.):

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## Short Answer & Essay Questions:

How did you hear about the Laura Whittaker Warming Hearts Scholarship?

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The scholarship applicant is required to answer **two essay questions**. The first essay question listed is required for all applicants. For the second essay, you may choose one of the remaining essay prompts listed. You will be graded on content, organization, and grammar. Make sure both essays are typed, double-spaced, and attached to your application.

### 1. Required Essay for all applicants:

The mission of the HANDSnFEET Foundation is to help ease the strain by providing assistance to the less fortunate in the Greater Charlotte area by focusing on three pillars of excellence:

- To help those on the brink avoid homelessness
- To provide for those unfortunate enough to find themselves in need of help
- To lift up those able to transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency

In a minimum of 75 words, explain how your life has been impacted by poverty or financial hardship?

### 2. Essay of Choice:

The Scholarship Committee wants to get to know you better! You will have the opportunity to write about one of the topics below, which should enhance your application and give the Scholarship Committee more information than what is already listed on your application. Be sure to speak openly about something that is meaningful to you. Choose **one** out of the **three** essay prompts *wisely*. The essay needs to be a minimum of 300 words, typed, double-spaced, and attached to this application. Please check the box for the essay you have selected.

- Discuss a time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what lessons did you learn?
- Detail a goal you have achieved. Explain how hard work, perseverance, and determination helped you achieve this goal.
- Who has had the biggest influence in your life and what qualities do you want to emulate?

## Letters of Reference:

(Make sure **two** letters are sealed and attached with application)

1. Name & Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name & Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby grant permission to the HANDSnFEET Laura Whittaker Warming Hearts Scholarship Committee to verify all information submitted, or in support of, this application. I understand the decision of the Scholarship Committee and Board of Directors is final.

I hereby grant permission to allow HANDSnFEET Foundation to use a photo and name if selected for the scholarship award for website purposes.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\*All information included in this application will be kept confidential and only reviewed by HANDSnFEET Foundation Scholarship Committee

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