

Senator George J. Mitchell Scholarship – Overview

History and Purpose

The Mitchell Scholarships were established in 1994 by U.S. Senator George J. Mitchell. One of Senator Mitchell's highest priorities is to expand and improve opportunities for the education of young people in Maine. The Mitchell Institute awards a scholarship each year to a graduating senior from every public high school in Maine. The scholarship award is for up to \$6,000 with the award paid out in four equal installments of \$1,500. Students pursuing a two-year degree are eligible for up to four years of scholarship support if they continue their education beyond the initial two years. The focus of the Mitchell Institute has always been, and continues to be, Maine students attending Maine colleges and universities. In an effort to help as many Maine students as possible obtain a higher education, the Mitchell Institute now has some scholarships available for Maine students planning to attend college out of state.

Criteria

The recipients are to be selected according to the following criteria:

1. To be eligible, each recipient must be **a legal resident of Maine and must plan to attend a four-year or two-year degree program at an accredited college or university and must be a graduating senior from a public high school in Maine.** Applicants must also be planning to enter their first year of college in September 2012.
2. Recipients will be chosen by the Board of Directors of the Senator George J. Mitchell Scholarship Research Institute. Recipients will be chosen from applications submitted by eligible students based on the following criteria:
 - a. Academic performance/academic potential
 - b. Community service
 - c. Financial need

No one criterion is more important than another. The Board carefully weighs all aspects of a student's application.

Terms of Award

The Mitchell Institute requires that all students comply with the terms of award offered at the time of their acceptance of the scholarship.

Deadlines

Application forms need to be postmarked by **April 1, 2012** and all supporting materials need to be postmarked by **May 1, 2012**.

Mitchell Scholarship – Application Checklist and Instructions

PLEASE KEEP THIS COVER SHEET and review to be sure you send all required materials.

The Mitchell Institute reserves the right not to consider applications that are incomplete as of May 1, 2012. We also reserve the right to accept late applications in special circumstances.

All application packets must include the following:

- Completed application form. No staples please!**
- A personal essay that tells us something about you that cannot be discerned from the application materials.**
- Your Student Aid Report (SAR)** – The SAR is the form sent back to families who have filled out the FAFSA to apply for federal financial aid; please send the **entire** SAR including the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) when you receive it.
- A copy of your financial aid award letter**– This is the letter you receive from the financial aid office of the college you plan to attend; if you do not have this award letter at the time you file the application form, please send a copy to us as soon as you receive notification of your award. We must receive it by May 1st at the latest.
- Official copies of all high school transcripts** – Be sure that a list of your Grade 12 courses is included. Please also include college transcripts if you have taken any college courses for credit while in high school.
- A recommendation from your high school guidance counselor or a teacher** – The counselor *does not need to write a special letter of recommendation* for the Mitchell Scholarship; a copy of the letter prepared in support of your college application or other similar letter of recommendation is perfectly acceptable.
- Confirmation by May 1 of the college or university you plan to attend** – If you already know which school you will attend, please enter it on the application form.

The Board of the Senator George J. Mitchell Scholarship Research Institute will review applications, and **decisions will be sent to applicants by June 1.**

Hard copy applications need to be postmarked by April 1, 2012. Please mail to:

<p>The Mitchell Institute 22 Monument Square, Suite 200 Portland, ME 04101</p>
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If you have any questions, please call us at (207) 773-7700, toll-free at (888) 220-7209, or e-mail jcash@mitchellinstitute.org. Our website address is www.mitchellinstitute.org

MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____
Last
First
Middle
Prefer to be called

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	RACE/ETHNICITY (Optional): <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander/Indian subcontinent <input type="checkbox"/> White/Caucasian <input type="checkbox"/> African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic (including Puerto Rican) <input type="checkbox"/> Other
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Home address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Parents/Guardian E-mail: _____

**** Please write email addresses clearly and differentiate between a "one" and an "L" ****

HIGH SCHOOL: _____ **Guidance Counselor:** _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name:		
Occupation/Title:		
Employer:		
Highest education COMPLETED:	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school <input type="checkbox"/> High school diploma or GED <input type="checkbox"/> Associates degree/Some college <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelors degree <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate degree, Masters, PhD <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school <input type="checkbox"/> High school diploma or GED <input type="checkbox"/> Associates degree/Some college <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelors degree <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate degree, Masters, PhD <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown

Who do you live with? Both parents One parent Other: _____

COLLEGE you plan to attend: _____ **Accepted**
Please note that if you are undecided or have not been notified of your acceptance yet, we need to know what college you decide to attend by May 1.

Did you have a second choice College? No Yes _____ **Accepted**

Degree anticipated: Two-year degree Four-year degree

Major area(s) of study: _____

Will you live: on campus off-campus apartment at home

List your **School Activities** (in order of importance to you):

Description	Years of participation	List any leadership positions or awards
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fresh. <input type="checkbox"/> Soph. <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. <input type="checkbox"/> Sr.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fresh. <input type="checkbox"/> Soph. <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. <input type="checkbox"/> Sr.	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Fresh. <input type="checkbox"/> Soph. <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. <input type="checkbox"/> Sr.	

List your **Community Service/Volunteering Activities** (in order of importance to you):

Description	# of years of participation	Total # of hours spent per year
		_____ Total hours/year

Employment History:

Job description	Dates of employment	Total # of hours worked in a typical week
		School year: Summers:

(application continues on next page)

Financial Information

Please fill out this section entirely and send in copies of your financial aid award notice and your SAR.

1. Household Income (gross annual household income from your parents' 2011 tax returns). We do not need a copy of the tax return. _____
2. Number of household members who will be in college in 2012, including parents. _____.
3. Expected Family Contribution (EFC) from your Student Aid Report. _____.

Academic Information

Please fill out this section entirely and send in a copy of your most recent high school transcript.

1. Class Rank- Number in class_____ Your standing_____.
 Please check here if your school does not rank

2. GPA_____.
 Please check here if your school does not calculate GPAs

3. Please list any advanced placement or honors courses you have taken if applicable

4. What is the highest-level math course you have taken? _____

(application continues on next page)

Mitchell Scholar Recognition and Research

The Mitchell Institute wants you to know that once you become a Mitchell Scholar, the support doesn't stop with a check. We distinguish ourselves from many other scholarship programs because we offer avenues to honor outstanding qualities of Mitchell Scholars, leadership training, network opportunities, community service opportunities and many other informal and formal supports. We are also conducting important research that is designed to identify ways to improve educational opportunities for all Maine students.

In order to help with our research and enable us to learn more about Mitchell Scholars, we ask that you answer the following questions. **These questions in no way enhance or decrease your chances of being awarded a Mitchell Scholarship. Mitchell Scholars are chosen based on:**

**Academic Potential
Demonstrated Community Service
Financial need**

The information we are trying to capture with these questions is for the purpose of implementing the Mitchell Scholarship Program after this year's Scholars are chosen and to be able to identify students, amongst the Mitchell Scholars, for special recognition. If you are a senior at a Maine public high school and plan to enter college in the fall of 2012, you should apply for the Mitchell Scholarship regardless of your answers to these questions.

1. Are either your parents or grandparents past or present employees of Bath Iron Works?

no

yes _____
full name of BIW employee and relation to you (parent/grandparent/etc.)

2. Have you taken a leadership role regarding diversity issues? no yes

If so, briefly explain:

***** SENATOR GEORGE J. MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AGREEMENT *****

All information in each portion of this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that I may be asked to provide proof of information stated in this form, including a copy of my parents' and/or my prior year's U.S. income tax return. I agree to be bound by all the terms and conditions of the Mitchell Scholarship Program should I be selected as a recipient.

Signature of applicant: _____

Name of applicant (printed): _____

Date: _____