



LGBT Youth Leadership Award Scholarships

The SMYAL LGBT Youth Leadership Awards are individual college scholarships of up to \$2,000 for Washington, DC Metro Area students who have demonstrated leadership in their school or community.

WHAT YOU NEED

- ◇ A personal essay (maximum 1,500 words) that addresses the question:
As an out LGBT leader, how have you positively impacted the lives of those around you, either in your school or local community?
- ◇ Two letters of support from individuals who can address your suitability for this award.
- ◇ A copy of your high school transcript
- ◇ A list of colleges where you have submitted active applications
- ◇ Copies of any acceptance letters you've already received

APPLICANTS SHOULD

- Self-identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, and/or transgender (LGBT).
- Have demonstrated personal growth and leadership in your community.
- Not be related to, the spouse of, the domestic partner of any Selection Committee member or SMYAL board or staff member.
- Consider your comfort level with being selected. Winners will have their picture and biography publicized.
- Be a high senior in the Washington, DC Metro Area. This includes the District of Columbia, Prince George's County (MD), Montgomery County (MD), Calvert County (MD), St. Mary's County (MD), Arlington County (VA), Fairfax County (VA), and Prince William County (VA).

HOW TO APPLY

Complete an application at SMYAL.org and submit all required supporting documents **BEFORE Friday, April 15.**

If you can't submit your application or supporting documents online, they can be mailed to:
SMYAL Attn: Youth Leadership Award Committee 410 7th St. SE Washington, DC 20003

Questions? Contact Scholarship@smyal.org

(over for more information)

smyal
empowering LGBTQ youth

410 7th Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003
www.smyal.org
202-567-3155



**The SMYAL LGBT
Youth Leadership Awards are
individual college scholarships of up to
\$2,000 paid directly to students.**

Eligible to apply: self-identified lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) high school seniors from the DC Metro Area, who have demonstrated personal growth and leadership in their school or community.

The SMYAL LGBT Youth Leadership Award Program will provide up to \$8,000 of financial support to offset the cost of college expenses including, but not limited to, tuition, housing, room and board or books. Individual awards range up to \$2,000 and are paid directly to the student in their first semester of college. Winners must be enrolled in a fully accredited two or four year college/university no later than Spring 2017, or actively applying to college. Awards will be made to students once enrolled and attending their selected college/university.

Potential leadership activities include, but are not limited to, leadership in Gay-Straight Alliances (GSA), student government, civic or community based organizations or religious organizations. Demonstrated leadership in other areas will be considered. Applicants should also demonstrate personal growth and the desire to make a difference in the world.

Each applicant will be evaluated on the totality of their situation. Personal merit, leadership, involvement in the LGBT community, professional experiences, academic achievement, financial need, marginalization, and future goals are all taken into consideration.

As this is a public award, applicants should consider their comfort level with being selected. Winners can expect to have their likeness and biography used in press materials and at public events.

Individuals who wish to be considered for a SMYAL Youth Leadership Award must complete an application at SMYAL.org prior to April 15 and submit all required documents to

If an application or supporting documents cannot be submitted online, they can be mailed to:
SMYAL Attn: Youth Leadership Award Committee 410 7th St. SE Washington, DC 20003.

Direct any questions to scholarship@smyal.org

LGBT seniors who are active in sports are encouraged to also apply for a Team DC Student Athlete Scholarship at TeamDC.org/scholarships.

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