



Beyond the Cure Ambassador Scholarship For College Aged Survivors of Childhood Cancer 2026 – 2027 Information & Application

Email or Mail completed applications to:
scholarships@thenccs.org

OR

**The National Children's Cancer Society
Beyond the Cure Ambassador Scholarship
2900 Frank Scott Parkway W., Suite 928
Belleville, IL 62223**

General Information

The Beyond the Cure (BTC) Ambassador Scholarship award is a competitive application process. A scholarship is worth \$3,500. Not all applicants will receive a scholarship.

The required materials must be postmarked by **March 31, 2026**. **Incomplete or late submissions will not be accepted. To ensure your application is received in a timely manner, we prefer email submissions, or you have it tracked or sent by Fed Ex or UPS.**

Eligibility Requirements

- Childhood cancer survivors under the age of 25 and diagnosed before the age of 18 with cancer or a high grade or anaplastic brain tumor
- Citizen of the United States living within the country and attending school in the U.S.
- Attending an accredited post-secondary or graduate school in the fall of 2026
- 2.5 minimum GPA

Evaluation Criteria

Application must include the following:

- This is a competitive application process, and all requirements carry weight in the review process. Not all applicants will receive a scholarship. Fifty survivors will receive \$3,500 scholarships for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Fully completed Beyond the Cure (BTC) Ambassador Scholarship application
- Written essay as directed in application
- Written documentation from a medical professional confirming cancer diagnosis, age and date of diagnosis

Official transcript(s) with signature and/or official school seal (**no photocopies**) and **include all grades up to December 2025**. We prefer that your transcripts accompany your application. Schools may send official transcripts directly to The National Children's Cancer Society by email (scholarships@thenccs.org) or mail and **MUST** be postmarked by **3/31/2026**. (Consider your school's spring break, as they may be closed during March.)

Questions?

Please contact Shelly Schuetz at scholarships@thenccs.org.

Recipients will be notified by phone the first week of July 2026. All other applicants will be notified by email.

All sections *MUST* be completed in order for your application to be considered. This form by itself is not a complete application package. Carefully check each section to make sure you have provided the requested information.

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE EMAILED OR POSTMARKED BY March 31, 2026.
Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.**

Applicant

Applicant's Name (first, middle, last) _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female
Ethnicity (check all that apply): ☐ African American ☐ Asian ☐ White ☐ Hispanic/Latino
☐ Other (explain) _____
Date of Birth _____ Are you a U.S. citizen? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Street Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Landline Phone # (_____) _____ Applicant's Cell Phone # (_____) _____
Applicant's Email _____

School Information

- **High School Seniors:** Submit official transcript(s) that includes final grades for all courses taken from 9th grade to the most recently completed semester of high school along with GPA
- **Home Schooled Seniors:** Send transcript(s) of the courses completed with grades, GPA, supporting test scores (ACT or SAT optional) and any other information that validates successful completion of high school curriculum
- **College Students:** Submit official transcript(s) that includes final grades for all courses taken from freshmen year to the most recently completed semester along with GPA
(*If only one semester of college has been completed, an official high school transcript AND college semester transcript IS required.*)

All transcripts *MUST* have signature and/or official school seal and include all grades UP TO December 2025. Unofficial transcript(s) or photocopied transcript(s) will not be accepted. We prefer that your transcripts accompany your application. Schools may send official transcripts directly to The National Children's Cancer Society by email (scholarships@thenccs.org) or mail and **MUST be postmarked by **3/31/2026**. (Consider your school's spring break, as they may be closed during March.)**

Please indicate if transcript(s) are being sent directly to the NCCS or included in the application packet. (**We highly recommend you confirm with your school that they mailed it.**) ☐ Included ☐ Sent Separately

Current School

School Name _____ School Phone # (_____) _____
Street Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
School's GPA grade scale: ☐ 4.0 ☐ 5.0 ☐ 6.0

Other Schools

Please list all other secondary (high school) and post-secondary (college, university, or vocational/technical) schools attended.

Dates Enrolled	School	City/State	Grade(s) Attended
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Applicant name: _____

Cancer Diagnosis
(MUST BE COMPLETED/FILLED OUT)

A letter from a medical professional confirming your cancer diagnosis **MUST** accompany your application packet. **If the diagnosis is a brain tumor, the letter MUST state the grade of the brain tumor.** Applicants **MUST** have been diagnosed on or before his/her 18th birthday to be eligible.

The letter should be on letterhead and include:

- **Applicant's age and year of diagnosis**
- **Type of cancer**
- **Medical professional's signature and daytime phone number**

Diagnosis _____ Date of diagnosis (m/d/yyyy) _____

Professional's Name _____ Title _____

Affiliation (hospital or otherwise) _____ Phone # (_____) _____

Please note: Per the NCCS Medical Advisory Board, applications will only be accepted from childhood cancer or high grade or anaplastic brain tumors survivors.

Essay

*At the NCCS we believe you become a cancer survivor from the time you are diagnosed through the remainder of your life. **How has your childhood cancer experience affected your perspective on life and how has that perspective impacted your future goals? (Essay must answer/address this question.)***

Format requirements:

- Typed, double spaced
- 12 pt. Times New Roman or Arial font
- One-inch margins
- Minimum length of one full page but no more than two pages
- Include applicants name at the top right corner of each page
- The essay will become the property of the NCCS and may be used for future publications/promotional materials should a scholarship be awarded

Community Service

Please list any community service you have been involved with and the dates on which you participated. (Additional sheets may be attached if necessary.)

College, University, or Vocational/Technical School

Please submit the name of the college, university or vocational/technical school applicant will be or currently is attending in fall 2026:

_____ or ☐ **Haven't committed yet**

Applicant name: _____

In all areas where a signature or initials are required, both the applicant and a parent/guardian must sign if applicant is under the age of 18.

To certify that all statements contained in the application are true and submitted essay was written by the applicant, please sign below.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Additional Requirements

Accepted BTC Ambassador Scholarship recipients will be required to electronically submit a high-resolution photo **at a later date**.

Applicant **and/or** parent/guardian authorizes the NCCS to use applicant's name, photo and essay/letters/story in electronic and digital publications and other promotional purposes **Initial below**.

Applicant _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Applicant **and/or** parent/guardian authorizes the NCCS to share scholarship information with the institution applicant will be attending in fall 2026. **Initial below**.

Applicant _____

Parent/Guardian _____

The **applicant** understands that the grant of the scholarship is subject to interpretation of the application in the sole discretion of the committee and the extent by which the program is funded. The amount of funding will be discretionary with the management of NCCS. Scholarship recipients under the age of 25 are eligible for a maximum of four scholarships. Renewal applicants must submit a new application each year and scholarships are neither automatic nor guaranteed. **The applicant, by their initials hereon acknowledges that they have read and understand all of the rules and requirements and agree to be bound by them.** The decision of the committee is final and may not be appealed, and the program administrator shall make all decisions regarding compliance with the requirements after a scholarship has been awarded. The **applicant** agrees to be bound by any such decision without appeal. **Initial below**.

Applicant _____

Parent/Guardian _____

Scholarship Disbursement

The scholarship award will be paid in equal amounts per semester directly to the college/university/technical school for the purpose of defraying tuition and additional fees or books. Awards must be used during the academic year in which they are granted. Any unused funds must be returned to the NCCS.



Beyond the Cure Ambassador Scholarship Financial Need Form (Must be completed)

***To be completed by applicant unless under the age of 18 or considered a dependent.
If a dependent, parent/guardian tax information must be provided.***

Applicant Name (first, middle, last) _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Relationship(s) to Applicant _____

Information from your most recent tax return may be used.

Current Income

	Student	Parent/Guardian
1. Adjusted gross income.	\$ _____	\$ _____
2. Total U.S. income tax paid (line 25a of your 1040) (if you haven't filed yet, use last year's income tax paid)	\$ _____	\$ _____
3. Currently, what is the current total balance of savings and checking accounts.	\$ _____	\$ _____
4. Total number of family members.		_____
5. Total number of immediate family members who will be attending college at least part-time during the next academic school year.		_____

Expenses

1. What is your monthly mortgage/rent payment, including utilities and phone?	\$ _____	\$ _____
2. Do you have any other monthly debts or obligations Such as credit card debt, loans, insurance or car payments?	\$ _____	\$ _____
3. List the total amount of out-of-pocket medical expenses not covered by insurance you paid in the past year.	\$ _____	\$ _____

Projected School Cost

1. How much will you (parent/guardian) be contributing to the applicant's educational expenses? (approximately, as if applicant is not receiving any scholarships)	\$ _____
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Please sign to verify that all information on this form is true.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____
(If applicant is under 18 years of age)



Beyond the Cure Ambassador Scholarship Check List

Please submit the application in the following order:

- ☐ Complete and sign application (pages 2-4). (Include applicant and parent/guardian signatures)
- ☐ Letter from a medical professional confirming the diagnosis and date/age at diagnosis
- ☐ Official transcript(s) as directed in the School Information section of the application

These documents MUST have a signature and/or official school seal along with GPA and include all grades UP TO December 2025. Unofficial or photocopied transcripts will not be accepted. We prefer that your transcripts accompany your application. Schools may send official transcripts directly to The National Children's Cancer Society by email (scholarships@thenccs.org) or mail and MUST be postmarked by 3/31/2026.

(Consider your school's spring break, as they may be closed during March.)

- ☐ Essay that follows the required formatting guidelines:
 - **Typed, double spaced**
 - **12 pt. Times New Roman or Arial font**
 - **One inch left, right, top and bottom margins**
 - **Minimum length of one full page but no more than two pages**
 - **Include applicant's name at top right corner of each page**
- ☐ Financial Need form (page 5)
- ☐ **Type or print applicant's name at the top right-hand corner of each page of application package; submit in same order as application sections; do NOT staple or paperclip pages together**
- ☐ Submit the entire application package in one envelope; **no faxes accepted**

Do NOT send the following:

copies of tax returns or letters of recommendations

ONLY send test scores if you are home schooled.

DEADLINE: A complete application package must be emailed or postmarked by March 31, 2026

ONLY COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKAGES WILL BE CONSIDERED
For timely delivery, we recommend using a trackable service such as FedEx or UPS.

Email

to:scholarships@thenccs.org

**Mail to: The National Children's Cancer Society
Beyond the Cure Ambassador Scholarship
2900 Frank Scott Parkway W., Suite 928
Belleville, IL 62223**