



Scholarship Eligibility Criteria and Application Procedures 2024 - 2025

Marin high school students pursuing a trade school or college education in California emphasizing automotive vocational training are eligible to apply for this scholarship award. SHIFTING GEARS USA, (headquartered in San Rafael, California) recognizes the need for trained professionals in the vocational trades, including automotive technology, and supports all Marin County high school students by offering this scholarship. Please see the SHIFTING GEARS USA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM for additional information and details about this scholarship opportunity.

The Scholarship Selection Committee may view academic achievement as an important accomplishment. However, to emphasize, high school grades are not the sole basis for awarding these scholarships. Enthusiastic participation in a student's high school automotive vocational technical program will be a significant consideration, and this shall be enhanced by participation in the SHIFTING GEARS USA supported CAPP (Car Appreciation and Preservation Program) held at Terra Linda High School (which is available to all Marin County high school students, and is accredited by the Marin County Office of Education).

APPLICATIONS:

Hard Copies of applications, including all applicable records, must be received by SHIFTING GEARS USA on or before Friday, April 19, 2024. Applications are to be mailed to: Shifting Gears USA, PO Box 9087, San Rafael, California. 94912. We recommend applications, including supportive information, be sent by certified mail. Incomplete applications or applications received after that date will not be accepted.

RECORDS NEEDED:

Records and information required to be submitted with the scholarship application include:

1. Signed Shifting Gears USA Application form.
2. At least two Letters of Recommendation – Contact those who know you and have worked with you (such as high school instructors, coaches, educators, employers, clergy, etc.) to provide letters of recommendation. These letters can be attached to your application, or be mailed directly to Shifting Gears USA, PO Box 9087, San Rafael, California. 94912. But, if they are mailed directly, they must be received by the application deadline to be considered.
3. Trade School, College or University Admission – Scholarship applicants must be available and eligible to begin scholastic work in the year that scholarships are awarded. Provide a list of those institutions you have applied to for admission and note any granted admissions.
4. Applicant's Statement - Include with your application a brief (about 200 words) personal statement why you should be considered for a scholarship award by SHIFTING GEARS USA.
5. Transcript of your high school grades.

INTERVIEWS:

Selected applicants will be notified by email and scheduled for a personal interview. In order to qualify for an award, applicants are required to be interviewed personally with the awards panel. Interviews will be in early May, and they will be coordinated with the availability of the selected applicants.

NON-DISCRIMINATION:

Applicants will be considered for scholarship awards without regard to race, creed, color, national origin, gender or sexual orientation.

SELECTION COMMITTEE:

The impartial Selection Committee is comprised of members of the public, and representatives of SHIFTING GEARS USA. Interviews are conducted solely by this Committee and their award decisions are final.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS:

Scholarship award winners will be advised by email of the Selection Committee's decisions.

CONTACT:

Please contact Gary O. Phillips (garyophillips1@gmail.com/415-812-4802) if you have any questions.