

Survivor Scholarship Application

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025



OUR MISSION

The Quell Foundation strives to reduce the number of suicides, overdoses, and the incarceration of people with a mental illness. We work to accomplish this by encouraging people to share their stories, increasing access to mental health services, providing a pipeline of future mental health care professionals with scholarships, and training first responders to recognize mental health crisis warning signs amongst their own.

There's a severe stigma associated with mental health challenges that prevents those closest to us from getting the help they need. By promoting open, judgment-free dialogue, together we can shatter the stigma and normalize the conversation around mental health.

THE AWARD

The Quell Foundation Survivor Scholarship is awarded to select high school seniors or current undergraduate/graduate students who have experienced the devastating loss of a parent, caregiver, or sibling to suicide. The award was established by The Quell Foundation's Irene Pasierb Memorial Fund as a means to educate communities and individuals about the disparities in care and effective treatment protocols afforded to the vulnerable and stigmatized population with a mental illness.

IRENE PASIERB MEMORIAL FUND

Irene Pasierb was born in Western Massachusetts in 1932. As the youngest daughter of Polish immigrants, she excelled in academia, music, and community involvement. To her friends, she was 'Nina' or 'Rene.' As a high school Junior, Irene won a medal given by the Daughters of the American Revolution for writing the best essay on any patriotic subject. She graduated with high honors in 1949, and her yearbook photo was captioned, 'And she had a face like a blessing.'

With a passion for learning, Irene pursued her post-secondary education at the Mass General Hospital of Nursing, graduating in 1952. Over the next decade, Irene married and started her family. In the years that followed she began her fight with diminishing mental health. She battled schizophrenia and clinical depression and required hospitalization on several occasions. In 1975 at the age of 43, Irene took her life, ending her battle with the illness that she tried so hard to stave off. She left four children ages 12-22 when she passed.

Surviving the life-changing loss of their mother, and with the same passion for education, each of her children went on to earn a graduate degree in their respective field of study. The Quell Foundation Survivor Scholarship is funded, in whole, by one of Irene's daughters: A national leader in her field.

This important recognition is accompanied with:

- A one-year distribution of a \$2,500 - \$5,000 scholarship.
- Opportunity to participate in the Foundation's awareness events/activities.

PLEASE NOTE

Application window: **March 1, 2024 - March 15, 2024 (11:59pm, PST)**

Early or late submissions will not be reviewed.

Award notification: Applicants may be asked to participate in an interview with a member of The Quell Foundation scholarship committee. Students will be notified of their preliminary selection, and the next steps for consideration, by Friday, May 10, 2024.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Quell Foundation Survivor Scholarship is a one-time, merit and financial need-based award. Awards will be made to those students who demonstrate a high level of need, academic achievement, and/or a history of employment and training that reflects a commitment to work and shared mission.

To be eligible, you must meet the following criteria:

- Student must have lost a parent, caregiver or sibling to suicide.
- Student must be accepted and enrolled in an accredited College or University.
- Student may be a graduating high school senior who has been accepted into an accredited university or an undergraduate student or a graduate student.
- Student must be matriculated and maintain full-time enrollment in an undergraduate/graduate program.
- Student must obtain a passing grade in all classes.
- Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.50
- Award must be applied to degree granting institution within academic year 2024-2025.
- Student will be encouraged to help facilitate showing of the Foundation's *Portraits of Life with Mental Illness* documentary on their college campus and participate in community awareness events/activities.
- Award recipient must adhere to all behavioral, professional, and ethical guidelines set forth by the educational institution.
- Award recipient must demonstrate an understanding and commitment to The Quell Foundation's Mission.
- Following preliminary award notification, recipients must submit a headshot and thank you video clip, which the Foundation will share with our generous donors and via media platforms.
- Student must submit scholarship check to college/university. All checks must be deposited by **October 4, 2024**.

SURVIVOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

- Complete all sections of the application form (Page 4) in its entirety.
- Provide electronic copy of your most recent high school /college /university unofficial transcript.
- Write a personal statement describing your reasons for pursuing a degree- including in this a reflection on how the loss of your loved one who died by suicide, has impacted you. This essay should be **approximately 500 words** and should include information regarding your career goals, interests and work experiences (paid or volunteer), as well as any additional information that provides some insight about your commitment to furthering wellness for yourself and others. **Please note: All Essays must include Name and Scholarship being applied for in the header of the document (to appear on every page).**
- Submit a copy of your Form 1040, Student Aid Report, or Tax Return (most recent, not older than 2022)
 - If student is independent: Include individual Form 1040.
 - If student is dependent: Include household Form 1040.
- Obtain 2 letters of recommendation (i.e. from a professor, coach, counselor, manager)
- All component parts of a scholarship application must be submitted **together** in a single email, with the exception of the 2 Letters of Recommendation which must be sent by the person writing the recommendation. All component parts of an application must be received within the open application period, **March 1, 2024 - March 15, 2024 (11:59pm, PST)**

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FULL NAME

PRONOUNS

MAILING ADDRESS, LINE 1*

MAILING ADDRESS, LINE 2 (ie. Apt, Unit)*

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

PHONE (PERSONAL)

EMAIL (PERSONAL)

HIGH SCHOOL

UNIVERSITY / COLLEGE (PLEASE USE FULL NAME)

STATE

STUDENT I.D. **

MAJOR / DEGREE PROGRAM

INTERNSHIP / PRACTICUM SITE **

YEAR OF STUDY (IN 2024 - 2025 ACADEMIC YEAR)

STUDENT STATUS:

CREDITS EARNED TO DATE

GPA (MUST MATCH ATTACHED TRANSCRIPT)

PROJECTED GRADUATION DATE (MM/YY)

EMPLOYMENT STATUS:

EMPLOYER

PARENT/GUARDIAN HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION COMPLETED

AS A SURVIVOR, YOUR RELATION TO DECEASED FAMILY MEMBER YEAR OF LOSS

PLEASE COMPLETE IF YOU ARE UNDER THE AGE OF 18:

PARENT / GUARDIAN NAME (1) (IF UNDER 18)

PARENT / GUARDIAN PHONE (IF UNDER 18)

* If awarded the scholarship, your check will be mailed here. This should be a permanent, accessible address.

** Please provide as available.

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APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Only completed applications with required attachments will be considered.

PLEASE NOTE: *Early or late submissions will not be reviewed.* Essay must include Name and Scholarship being applied for in the document header (to appear on every page).

Be sure to include the following with your application:

- Application form (Page 4)
- Electronic copy of your most recent high school /college /university unofficial transcript.
- Personal statement, approximately 500 words
- A copy of your Form 1040, Student Aid Report, or Tax Return (most recent, not older than 2022)
- 2 letters of recommendation (i.e. from a professor, coach, counselor, manager), to be sent by the person writing the recommendation. All component parts of an application must be received within the open application period, **March 1, 2024 - March 15, 2024 (11:59pm, PST)**

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- Application period for this award will begin on March 1, 2024.
- Submit applications electronically no later than March 15, 2024, 11:59pm PST.
- All early and late applications will be disqualified. No exceptions. This includes letters of recommendation.
- Please send all materials as one package (with the exception of the letters of recommendation) to:
scholarships@thequellfoundation.org.
- Materials should be saved in the following way please:
 - Application: **Last Name. First Initial Survivor Application** (Ex: Abbott. E Survivor Application)
 - Transcript: **Last Name. First Initial Transcript** (Ex. Abbott. E Transcript)
 - Personal Statement: **Last Name. First Initial Personal Statement** (Ex. Abbott. E Personal Statement)
 - Letters of Recommendation: **Last Name. First Initial Letter of Rec** (Ex. Abbott. E Letter of Rec)
- Subject line for emailed applications (coming from student) AND recommendations (coming from writer) should read as follow, please:
 - **Last Name. First Initial Application Materials** (Ex. Abbott. E Application Materials).
- All letters of recommendation must be emailed to **scholarships@thequellfoundation.org** with the email subject line (**Last Name. First Initial Application Materials**) between **March 1, 2024 and March 15, 2024 at 11:59pm PST**. Applicants are encouraged to forward these instructions.
- Please contact **scholarships@thequellfoundation.org** with questions and concerns.

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