

# APPLICATION GUIDELINES



## George Washington Gale Scholars Program

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Up to fifteen eighth grade students will be selected annually to the George Washington Gale Scholars Program through an application/interview process. Gale Scholars will receive free tuition to Carl Sandburg College and to Knox College upon completion of certain requirements throughout their Galesburg High School years.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

Current eighth grade students who will be entering Galesburg High School will be considered for the program. In addition, they must meet the following selection criteria:

- Financial need (as determined by federal guidelines – included in the application materials)
- 1<sup>st</sup> generation college student (neither parent holds a baccalaureate degree)
- Recommended minimum attendance of 90%
- Recommended minimum cumulative 2.5 grade point average based upon sixth, seventh, and eighth grade years.

### HOW TO APPLY

1. Students must complete an application form detailing their activities and awards.
2. A parent or guardian must submit financial information and certify that the student will be a first-generation college student.
3. Students and parents must agree to release a copy of the student's transcripts to the selection committee.

### SELECTION PROCESS

A selection committee (comprised of one representative from Knox College, one representative from Carl Sandburg College, and three representatives from District #205) will review all applications and select finalists. Finalists will be asked to submit three letters of reference and will then be interviewed by the selection committee.

### TIMELINE

Student applications are due in the student's school office by March 16, 2012, with a copy of a federal income tax return. Finalists will be announced by March 22, 2012. Letters of reference for the finalists will be due by March 26, 2012. Students should be notified of the selection committee's decisions by April 17, 2012.

## INCOME ELIGIBILITY

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Find your family size on the income chart to the right. If your total income was below this amount in 2011, your child qualifies for the Gale Scholar Program.

Size of Family Unit	48 Contiguous States, D.C., and Outlying Jurisdictions
1	\$16,755
2	\$22,695
3	\$28,635
4	\$34,575
5	\$40,515
6	\$46,455
7	\$52,395
8	\$58,335

### Whose income is included?

- If the child lives with both parents or one parent and a stepparent, family income is based on the combined income of those two individuals.
- If the child lives with only one parent (who is single, divorced, or widowed), family income is based solely on that parent's income.
- If the parent lives with foster parents, the child meets the income criteria. Please write FOSTER PARENT next to your signature. (Foster parent(s) income should NOT be used to determine whether a GWG applicant meets the income criteria.)

### Definition of "parent" for income eligibility determination:

A parent is:

- Natural or biological parent(s)
- Adoptive parent(s)
- Legal guardianship (individual who has been appointed by the court and has been directed by the court to use his/her financial resources to support the child. This does not include grandparents, unless the grandparent(s) has adopted the student or has been made the court-appointed guardian(s) of the student.)

### What is included in income?

- Wages and salary
- Net income from self-employment (non-farm or farm)
- Social Security payments
- Retirement and pension payments
- Dividends and interest from savings and investments
- Capital gains on investments
- Net rental income
- Unemployment compensation
- Public assistance or welfare payments
- Alimony and/or child support payments
- Other cash income

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## DEFINITION OF A FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT

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A student qualifies as a first-generation college student if he/she:

- Lives with both parents, and neither parent has completed a baccalaureate degree
- Lives with only one parent, and that parent has not completed a baccalaureate degree

NOTE: Definition of a parent for determining whether a student is a first generation college student.

A parent is: – Natural or biological parent(s) OR adoptive parent(s)

# STUDENT APPLICATION



## George Washington Gale Scholars Program

(Write in Ink)

STUDENT IDENTIFICATION (to be completed by the student applicant)		
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MI
HOME TELEPHONE	ADDRESS	
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE

PARENTAL CERTIFICATION (to be completed by a parent or guardian)	
LAST NAME	FIRST NAME
<p>BY SIGNING BELOW:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I certify that, after referring to the Family Income Guidelines included in the application materials, to the best of my knowledge my child meets the financial need requirement.</li> <li>2. I agree to provide financial information to the Gale Scholars Program Selection Committee for the express purpose of determining my child's eligibility for this program.(Federal Income Tax Return)</li> <li>3. I certify that my child will be considered a first-generation college student (neither parent holds a baccalaureate degree).</li> <li>4. I certify that my child is a U.S. citizen, or permanent resident.</li> <li>5. I certify that my child's custodial parent(s) is/are residents of the state of Illinois as defined by the ISAC.</li> </ol>	
<hr style="width: 80%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> Parent or Guardian Signature <span style="float: right;">Date</span>	

STUDENT ACADEMIC INFORMATION (to be completed by the school office)	
INFORMATION FOR FIRST SEMESTER, 8 <sup>TH</sup> GRADE YEAR	
GPA	# OF DAYS ABSENT
OTHER COMMENTS <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"> <hr style="width: 80%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/>                     School Staff Signature <span style="float: right;">Date</span> </div>	

**RETURN TO SCHOOL OFFICE BY March 16, 2012.**



## SELECTION TIMELINE



### George Washington Gale Scholars Program

**3/2—Letter/Application Mailed by Junior High Deans -Applications must have tax returns included**

**3/16—Applications Due to Junior Highs with tax returns**

**3/20—Initial Screening—Letters mailed to every applicant regarding status by Deans; Selected Interview candidates given recommendation forms**

**3/22---Interview Candidates will be notified and provided recommendation forms**

**3/26-3/28-----Final Interviews conducted at respective junior highs**

**4/17----Applicants notified of status as accepted or not accepted**

**4/27----Induction Ceremony—1:00 pm at CSC—Bus transportation provided for students**

**5/1— Parent’s Meeting—7:00 pm @ GHS Parents/students sign agreement and receive orientation overview**

#### **2011 Summer School- Tentative (Year Fall of 2012)**

**9<sup>th</sup>— M-Fr—AM--6/4-6/29—8:30-12:00**

**10<sup>th</sup>--M-Th- -8:30-12:00 Or 1:00-4:30- 6/4-6/29**

**11<sup>th</sup>-@ CSC - M-Th AM-9:00-12:00- 6/4-6/29**

**12<sup>th</sup> @Knox - M-Th AM-9:00-12:00- 6/5-6/29**