

Alaina Kaitlyn Hahn Celebratory Scholarship For Students with Alagille Syndrome (ALGS)



2019 Application Information Sheet

Sponsored by:	Alagille Syndrome Alliance (ALGSA)
Scholarship Value:	\$500 (renewable for one year, subject to open competition with other applicants, for a total possible award of \$1,000)
Applications Open:	January 15, 2019
Application Deadline:	March 31, 2019 (11:59 pm in the recipient's time zone when submitted by email; or postmarked by for mailed applications)
Award Notification After:	May 1, 2019

Background

In February 2015, the Alagille Syndrome Alliance (ALGSA) established the Alaina Kaitlyn Hahn Celebratory Scholarship in honor of the daughter of ALGSA Founder, Cindy Luxhoj. Alaina was born with Alagille Syndrome (ALGS) on September 30, 1990, and died from this debilitating disease on January 15, 2015, when she was only 24 years old. The Alaina Kaitlyn Hahn Celebratory Scholarship funds the education of high school graduates or GED credential recipients with ALGS who are entering or enrolled in an accredited US university, college or vocational school and choose to pursue higher education in the human biological, medical, or health sciences. The Scholarship is for \$500 for a single year and is renewable for one year, subject to open competition with other applicants, for a total possible award of \$1,000.

Alaina cared deeply about other children and adults who battle ALGS. She talked, texted and emailed her many ALGS friends daily and was constantly sharing advice and experiences with parents and patients through social media. She lived and breathed this disease, but never let it limit or define her. A graduate in Human Physiology from the University of Oregon, Alaina was pursuing certification in Orthotics and Prosthetics with plans to obtain a Masters in O&P from the University of Washington when she died. This scholarship honors Alaina's legacy. Our goal is to make the Alaina Kaitlyn Hahn Celebratory Scholarship self-sustaining so any young person with ALGS who desires to follow a career in human biological, medical, or health sciences will receive a crucial financial boost in the pursuit of their educational dreams.

Eligibility

To be eligible an applicant must:

- Be a high school graduate, expect to graduate high school by July 1, 2019, or be a GED credential recipient
- Be diagnosed with Alagille syndrome (ALGS)

- Be currently enrolled or planning to enroll at an accredited US university or college as an undergraduate student, or in a US vocational school
- Be planning to major and pursue a career in human biological, medical, or health sciences
- Be a US citizen or legal and permanent resident of the US
- Not be an employee or an immediate family member of an employee of the ALGSA
- Not be a member of the Board of Directors or an immediate family member of a member of the Board of Directors of the ALGSA
- See also Additional Program Disclosures

Additional Program Disclosures

- ALGSA reserves the right to change, discontinue, or cancel this program at any time without notice.
- Applicants are solely responsible for submitting all required application materials by the application deadline.
- Each applicant selected to receive an award must notify ALGSA of their acceptance within 30 days of being selected, or their award will be forfeited.
- Questions about the program may be directed to ALGSA by calling (901) 286-8869 or by emailing alagille@alagille.org.
- Void where prohibited by law. This Program is subject to all federal, state and local laws.

Scholarship Value

One \$500 scholarship will be awarded for a single year. The award may be applied to educational expenses at an accredited US university or college (undergraduate), or US vocational school. The award is renewable for one year, subject to open competition with other applicants, for a total possible award of \$1,000.

Award Notification

All applicants will be notified about the results of the selection process. Each applicant selected to receive an award must notify ALGSA of their acceptance within 30 days of being selected, or their award will be forfeited. Award recipients will have the option to participate in publicity about the scholarship. Publicity details will be outlined at the time of notification. If the awardee accepts the scholarship, the award will be deposited with the financial aid office at the recipient's university, college or vocational school to be applied toward the recipient's educational expenses.

How to Apply

Application materials are available on the ALGSA website at www.alagille.org or by request via email to alagille@alagille.org (include "AKH Scholarship" in the subject line). Applicants may complete the application process by email or mail to the ALGSA. All submitted application materials are reviewed by the ALGSA Board of Directors Scholarship Team. The ALGSA Scholarship Team administers the program, evaluates applications, and selects the award recipient. The award recipient will be selected based on their planned program of study, evidence of academic achievement, and personal goals and aspirations.

Primary forms and required documentation:

- Application form
- Official high school and/or university, college or vocational school transcripts from all academic institutions attended
- Letter of acceptance from university, college or vocational school, and proof of enrollment for all terms in the academic year of the award

- Signed letter from the applicant's treating physician verifying that they have ALGS. The treating physician must include his or her Medical Education (ME) number. The ME number is a 10 digit number assigned to every physician in the US by the American Medical Association for identification and recording of basic physician information. To qualify for the award, the applicant must provide permission for the ALGSA Scholarship Team to confirm their diagnosis with their treating physician.

Secondary application steps:

- Two letters of recommendation from teachers or professors, academic advisors, guidance counselors, or other individuals familiar with your academic potential and likelihood of success in higher education; recommendations from the applicant's family members or employers will not be accepted
- One- to two-page personal statement (maximum of 500 words) discussing some or all of the following:
 - How has being an ALGS Warrior helped you achieve your goals?
 - What are your academic and professional plans?
 - Why are you majoring and intending to pursue a career in human biological, medical, or health sciences?
- 3-minute video recording (provided on flash drive with application submittal or uploaded to personal YouTube channel with access information) explaining your proudest moment to date and why you deserve to be the recipient of the Alaina Kaitlyn Hahn Celebratory Scholarship
- 15-minute in-person interview (by phone or Skype) with the ALGSA Scholarship Team

Submit application materials by email to alagille@alagille.org, or mail printed copies of these materials in a single envelope to:

Alagille Syndrome Alliance
 Attn: Scholarship Team
 PO Box 22
 Collierville, TN 38027

For the 2019-2020 school year, the deadline for application materials to be submitted by email is 11:59 pm (in the applicant's time zone) on March 15, 2019. If application materials are mailed, the envelope must be postmarked no later than March 15, 2019. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted.

Resources

Questions about the Alaina Kaitlyn Hahn Celebratory Scholarship program may be directed to the ALGSA by calling (901) 286-8869 or by emailing alagille@alagille.org.

The ALGSA wishes all applicants success in their future endeavors.
 Thank you for applying!