



P.O. Box 714  
Highland Park, Illinois 60035  
alumni@matheralumni.org

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in applying for the 2018 Mather Alumni Scholarship. The alumni of Mather High School are proud to offer an \$8,000 scholarship - \$2,000 each year for four years, with demonstration of continued academic success. The qualifications are as follows:

- Applicant must be a senior at Mather High School
- Applicant must be actively pursuing acceptance from an academically accredited college or university. This includes community colleges.
- Applicant must have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership qualities, and an understanding of the responsibilities of good citizenship

We require both academic and character references. The academic reference should be from one of your teachers at Mather, while the character reference should be from someone who knows you personally and can attest to your character and abilities. If a teacher is your character reference, the letter cannot mention academics.

Spelling, grammar and originality are considered in evaluating this application, as an indicator of readiness for post-high school education. The selection will be made on the basis of information provided by student and references. The Award will be distributed without regard to race, religion, color, creed or national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation or disabilities.

Please print out and submit the completed application to Sara Wong, Counselor **on or before January 17, 2018**. No late applications will be considered. Interviews of all semi-finalists will be held in March. Your transcript will be provided by Ms. Wong.

On behalf of the Mather Alumni, we would like to congratulate you on your upcoming graduation. Good luck in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,  
The Mather Alumni Scholarship Evaluation Committee

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICANT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Initial

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Names and ages of other children in family:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Birthplace: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Town State/Province Country

Years lived in the US? \_\_\_\_\_ Years lived outside the US? \_\_\_\_\_

Language Proficiency (Check all that apply)

S (Speech) R (Read) W (Write) F (First Language) H (Spoken at home)

|       | S                        | R                        | W                        | F                        | H                        |
|-------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## FUTURE PLANS

My current career goal is: \_\_\_\_\_ College Admission Score: SAT \_\_\_\_\_

I am hoping to attend one of the following colleges or universities:

\_\_\_\_\_

The information included in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

## STATEMENT FROM SCHOOL

**(TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNSELOR, DEAN, PRINCIPAL OR ADMINISTRATOR)**

The above named student will, according to present plans, graduate from Mather High School on \_\_\_\_\_ and will rank \_\_\_\_\_ in a class of \_\_\_\_\_. The information included in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of school administrator and Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## ESSAY

**Essay instructions** This essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades and test scores? Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay of no more than 650 words, using the prompt to inspire and structure your response. Remember: 650 words is your limit, not your goal. Use this full range if you need it, but don't feel obligated to do so.

**Please use separate sheet for your typewritten essay.**

- Some students have a background, identity, interest or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
- The lessons we take from failure can be fundamental to later success. Recount an incident or time when you experienced failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
- Reflect on a time when you challenged a belief or idea. What prompted you to act? Would you make the same decision again?
- Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain the significance to you and what steps you took or could have taken to identify a solution.
- Discuss an accomplishment or event, formal or informal, that marked your transition from childhood to adulthood within your culture, community or family.

## ACADEMIC REFERENCE

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Subject Taught \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known this student and in what context? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the first words that come to your mind to described this student? \_\_\_\_\_

In which grade level(s) was the student enrolled when you taught him/her? ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

List the courses in which you have taught this student, including the level of course difficulty (AP, IB, accelerated, honors, elective, 100-level, 200-level, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Ratings:** Compared to other students in his or her class year, how do you rate this student in terms of:

| No basis |                             | Below average | Average | Good (above average) | Very good (well above average) | Excellent (top 10%) | Outstanding (top 5%) | One of the top few I've encountered (top 1%) |
|----------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|
|          | Academic achievement        |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Intellectual promise        |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Quality of writing          |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Creative, original thought  |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Productive class discussion |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Respect accorded to faculty |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Disciplined work habits     |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Maturity                    |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Motivation                  |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Leadership                  |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Integrity                   |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Reaction to setbacks        |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Concern for others          |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Self-confidence             |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Initiative, independence    |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | OVERALL                     |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |

**Evaluation** On a separate sheet of paper please write whatever you think is important about this student, including a description of academic and personal characteristics, as demonstrated in your classroom. We welcome information that will help us to differentiate this student form others. Please feel free to attach another academic reference you may have prepared on behalf of this student.

## CHARACTER REFERENCE

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Reference's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Reference's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known this student and in what context? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the first words that come to your mind to described this student? \_\_\_\_\_

In which grade level(s) was the student enrolled when you knew him/her? ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

**Ratings:** Compared to other students in his or her class year, how do you rate this student in terms of:

| No basis |                                | Below average | Average | Good (above average) | Very good (well above average) | Excellent (top 10%) | Outstanding (top 5%) | One of the top few I've encountered (top 1%) |
|----------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--|
|          | Work ethic                     |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Accepts feedback               |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Creative, original thought     |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Productive                     |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Respect accorded to co-workers |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Disciplined work habits        |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Maturity                       |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Motivation                     |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Leadership                     |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Integrity                      |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Reaction to setbacks           |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Concern for others             |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Self-confidence                |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | Initiative, independence       |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |
|          | OVERALL                        |               |         |                      |                                |                     |                      |  |

**Evaluation** On a separate sheet of paper please write whatever you think is important about this student, including a description of academic and personal characteristics, as demonstrated in your classroom. We welcome information that will help us to differentiate this student form others. Please feel free to attach another character reference you may have prepared on behalf of this student.