

Knowledge Is Key, Inc.'s Victory In Scholastic Achievement (V.I.S.A.) Scholarship



Scholarship Awards will be presented
for the *Fall '21 Semester*

Award Amounts:

1st place - \$3,000

2nd place - \$2,000

About the Scholarship

The Victory In Scholastic Achievement (V.I.S.A) Scholarship is made possible by sponsorship from Hanson Republic, LLC, a home improvement and construction company owned by a former K.I.K scholarship recipient and his wife.

Application Instructions

Please complete the attached forms and submit them with all required materials by January 31, 2021, 11:59pm EST. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

Applications can be submitted by one of the following means only:

- *By mail:*

Knowledge Is Key, Inc. – V.I.S.A Scholarship Applicant
29 Marvin Ave, Uniondale, NY 11553

- *By email:* info@KnowledgeIsKeyInc.org / Subject: V.I.S.A Scholarship Applicant

Requirements:

1. Applicants must be enrolled in and be able to provide proof of enrollment in an accredited College, University or Trade School within the United States for the 2021-2022 school year.
2. Applicants must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher at time of applying.

Scholarship Recipient Expectations:

We hold our recipients with high esteem and consider them to be an integral part of the Knowledge is Key, Inc. family. We invite recipients to take part in K.I.K's yearly activities and events. This may include serving as an honorary spokesperson for the scholarship year and taking part in the scoring of future applications. As a scholarship recipient you will be asked to submit a personal picture or headshot that displays you in a scholarly light. By applying for the V.I.S.A Scholarship, you are agreeing to the above terms and understand what is expected if selected as a recipient for this award.

Important Information:

- Checks will only be made payable to the College, University or Trade School the applicant is attending.
- All checks will be posted no earlier than the 1st of August and no later than the 10th of August of the scholarship year.
- All scholarships will be applied to the Fall Semester and/or the entire school year unless otherwise noted.

We look forward to receiving your application.

Sincerely,
Scholarship Committee
Knowledge Is Key, Inc. "K.I.K"

Scholarship Application Checklist

Your application is not considered complete and will not be considered for review until all of the following items have been submitted/completed by January 31, 2021.

- Personal & Educational Information form
- Applicant Essay (typed, with your full name added to each essay page)
- Reference Form
- High School Transcript **and** Transcript Request Form (For high school students only. Both transcript and a transcript request form **must** be submitted, even if that information can be found elsewhere)
- College Transcript
- Personal Presentation
- Personal Presentation Acknowledgement Form
- Social Media Participation

Items listed are not required to be submitted together but should be submitted by the due date listed. If the application due date is 10 business days or more away, K.I.K representatives may choose to inform applicants of missing documents but is under no obligation to do so.

Personal Information

First Name: _____	Last Name: _____
Address: _____	Phone: (____) _____ - _____
City: _____	E-mail: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____	

Educational Information

*Please **do not** complete this section if you have completed at least one semester at a college, university or trade school. This section is to be completed by graduating H.S. seniors or individuals who have not completed secondary education courses.*

High School: _____

GPA: _____ Graduation Date: _____

Which standardized test score will you submit? When was the test taken? ____/____/____
 SAT scores ACT scores

A high school transcript and ACT or SAT scores are required for all scholarship applicants who have not completed at least one full semester of college. Complete the top portion of the High School Transcript Request form on page 4 and present it to your school official or guidance counselor. It must be completed and returned with an official transcript to 29 Marvin Ave, Uniondale, NY 11553 in a sealed envelope from the issuing school, or sent electronically directly to info@KnowledgeIsKeyInc.org.

College/Trade School: _____	GPA: _____
Graduation Date: _____	
Graduate School: _____	GPA: _____
Graduation Date: _____	

An official transcript is required from all applicants who have completed at least one full semester at a college, university or trade school. Do not submit a H.S. transcript. The official transcript must be sent to 29 Marvin Ave, Uniondale, NY 11553 or sent electronically by the institution’s Registrar directly to info@KnowledgeIsKeyInc.org. Mailed transcripts must have the school’s seal and should be sent in a sealed envelope.

Victory In Scholastic Achievement (V.I.S.A.) Scholarship Application

Please do not complete this request form if you have completed at least one semester at a college, university or trade school. This section is to be completed and submitted by graduating H.S. seniors only.

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT REQUEST

Student Information

First Name: _____	Last Name: _____
Address: _____ _____	Home Phone: _____
City: _____	E-mail: _____
State: _____	Zip: _____

I give permission for my official transcript and other information to be sent to Knowledge Is Key, Inc.

Student's Signature: _____	Date _____
Parent Signature (If applicant is under 18 years old) _____	Date _____

Authorized School Official Please print clearly

Please provide the following information for the student above:

High School GPA: _____	ACT Composite: _____
Date of Graduation: _____	SAT Composite: _____
Name of Authorized Personnel: _____	Title: _____

Authorized Official's Signature: _____	Date: _____
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Please mail this form with applicant's official transcript to Knowledge Is Key, Inc. 29 Marvin Avenue, Uniondale, NY 11553

Scholarship Reference Form

Please have the attached form completed by a business, work or school related contact, whom is not a relative.

Dear _____,

I am applying for an academic scholarship awarded by **Knowledge Is Key, Inc.** I would like you to complete the below reference form. My application packet, along with your reference, must be submitted to the scholarship committee by **January 31st**, in order for my application to be considered. Please feel free to attach additional pages if necessary. You may return it to me in a sealed envelope, forward it to the address listed below, or you may e-mail your reference form to **info@KnowledgeIsKeyInc.org** with subject **ATTN: Scholarship Reference.**

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Address: _____

Applicant Email: _____

Reference Name: _____

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity? _____

2. What characteristics do you feel the applicant possess that make him/her a successful student?

3. What is your assessment of the applicant's ability to succeed? _____

4. Are there economic or unique factors that make the applicant especially worthy of scholarship support?

5. Additional comments: _____

Signature _____

Title _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Part I - Essay

Choose 1 of the 2 essay options. Essays must be typed using the following font requirements: Times New Roman, Size 12, 1.5 line spacing. Your full name should be printed on all essay pages and pages should be numbered. Essays must be at least two pages, but no more than three pages.

Option A

A visa is an endorsement indicating that the holder is allowed to enter, leave, or stay for a specified period in a country. How will this scholarship grant you access to the next dimension of your life and career?

Option B

Describe how your family's culture has influenced your drive to further your studies in the field you have selected as your dream career.

Part II - Personal Presentation

Select a presentation format from the following list and use it to describe your life following graduation. This presentation should align with your essay topic.

- a. Vision Board
- b. PowerPoint (no more than 20 slides)
- c. Video Clip (no more than 7 minutes)
- d. Picture Collage

Acceptable formats for digital work include .MOV, .MPEG, .MP4, .JPG, .PDF, Microsoft Office file format. Digital work must be shared via email to info@knowledgeiskeyinc.org with the subject: **[Last Name, First Name] Personal Presentation**. File name should also match the format of the subject line.

Part III - Social Media Participation (completed by January 31st)

Create a social media post(s) on Facebook or Instagram. Tag @Knowledgeiskeyinc and use the hashtag #KIKScholarship21 for the post to be eligible. This post should tell your social media followers you are applying to K.I.K's scholarship and you need their assistance. Your followers should leave comments as to why you should receive this scholarship. These comments should speak to your character, your determination and the role you play within your community. Derogatory comments and/or general comments that do not help us to get to know you better will not be counted towards your final score. Also remember to make your posts "public". Your posts must be up by January 31st, however comments will be reviewed up until February 15th. Your identity must be clear for your post to be scored. Be sure to also like/follow Knowledge Is Key, Inc. on social media.

Facebook: KnowledgeIsKeyInc

Instagram: KnowledgeIsKeyInc

Twitter: KIKInc2010

DISCLAIMERS

*Submissions should be completely ORIGINAL as we will not be responsible for any copyright infringements or the like. This also includes any photos that you include in your presentation. Personal presentations may be displayed on our website, social media pages, and may be shared during our special events. Submitted presentations will not be returned; please keep a copy for your records. **You must sign and return the acknowledgement on the next page for your presentation to be accepted.***

Personal Presentation Acknowledgement

By signing this agreement, I confirm my submitted presentation contains original work. I confirm I have received permission to use any media format included in my presentation that is not my original creation. I understand Knowledge Is Key, Inc. will not take responsibility for any copyright infringements or the like on my behalf. I give Knowledge Is Key, Inc. permission to use my personal presentation on its website, social media pages, and advertisements of any kind. I understand my submitted presentation will not be returned and I should therefore keep a copy for my records.

By signing below, you are stating that you understand and accept the terms outlined above. **Please return this signed page with your submitted application.**

Signature

Date

Print Name

Applicants under the age of 18:

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Print Name

Social Media Handles:

Please remember - your social media account and/or post must be public or your posts will not be scored. Please include your social media handle below, ONLY for the account you will post to for this component.

Instagram: _____

Facebook: _____

Applicant #: _____

Rules for Judges:

All essays will be scored based on the below criteria.

SCORE

<p>1. <i>Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation</i> Individual showed great attention to detail, made very few or no spelling and grammatical errors. It appears that the writer took the time to edit and review his/her work. Punctuation errors were minimal.</p>
<p>2. <i>Organization & Depth</i> The writer's paragraphs were in a logical order and showed a natural flow of ideas. Essay was very easy to read. The writer's sentences were clear and effectively conveyed the writer's ideas to the reader.</p>
<p>3. <i>Originality & Enthusiasm</i> The writer was able to grab the reader's attention. The writer laid out their ideas in a way that kept the reader interested, wanting to read more. The writer took the time to input new thoughts & ideas and did not repeat the same ideas from paragraph to paragraph. Readers would be intrigued to examine more of the writer's work.</p>
<p>4. <i>Content</i> Did the writer show a thorough understanding of the topic they chose? How well does the writer expand on the topic of choice? Did the writer remain true to their topic throughout the essay?</p>
<p>5. <i>Development</i> Did the writer develop an interesting and significant interpretive thesis statement at an appropriate scope for length of the essay? Was there ample, well-chosen evidence used to support the thesis? Did it include a thoughtful analysis? Were the supporting ideas developed thoroughly with details that are specific, relevant, and show a solid understanding of the question?</p>

Personal Presentation

Applicant #: _____

Rules for Judges:

All presentations will be scored based on the below criteria.

SCORE

1. <i>Originality (10pts)</i> Ideas expressed represent the personal thoughts and beliefs of the applicant. Originality supported by details and evidence (e.g. pictures of interests or activities).
2. <i>Content (10pts)</i> Applicant meets expectations and addresses required components of presentation. Statement is clear and connects to selected essay topic. Presentation is thoughtfully completed in line with purpose.
3. <i>Creativity (10pts)</i> Presentation stands out and is visually appealing. Includes visuals (i.e. pictures, diagrams or demonstrations).

Social Media Activity

Applicants will receive two points, for a maximum of ten points, for each comment posted stating why you should receive this scholarship, speaking to your character, your determination and the role you play within your community. Remind your followers comments must be posted by February 15th to be counted.

Overall Score Sheet

Criteria	Total Points Possible
GPA 3.0 - 3.2 10 points 3.3 - 3.5 15 points 3.6 - 3.8 25 points 3.9 - 4.0 30 points	30 points
Essay (<i>see score guide</i>)	30 points
Personal Presentation (<i>see score guide</i>)	30 points
Social Media Activity	10 points
Total:	100