

The Key to Your Future Career May Be in the Bag

Houston Grocery Manufacturers' Representatives Association Scholarship Application

The HGMRA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to build and enhance the relationship among food industry suppliers, brokers and manufacturers and the retailers in the Houston area.

HGMRA's service project is their scholarship program, which has awarded over \$1.5 million to over 940 students. The entire scholarship process—from application through funding—is a partnership between the HGMRA and Houston-area grocery stores.

This program enters its 38th year looking forward to a bright future in our industry, and if you are interested in making a career in the food industry—then read the eligibility requirements listed below. If you qualify, complete the application and turn it in to your store director.

Please read the information regarding the scholarship process CAREFULLY. You will need to attend an interview during a normal weekday. This means you will probably miss school or work and you will need to make arrangements for transportation to and from the interview site. Your interview appointment and other important information will be sent to you after your application has been processed and you are selected to participate in the interview round.

YOU QUALIFY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP IF YOU ARE—

A high school senior graduating this semester, planning to attend a college/university or junior college in Texas or Louisiana, planning to be a full-time student (taking at least 12 hours of coursework per semester with no more than 6 hours of coursework via internet or correspondence), your transcript reflects a C average or higher, interested in a career in the food industry, and a person who needs financial support in order to attain their college education.

YOU QUALIFY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP IF YOU ARE—

A high school graduate attending a college/university or junior college in Texas or Louisiana, **working full-time** and attending school part-time (taking at least 6 hours of coursework per semester with no more than 3 hours of coursework via internet or correspondence), your transcript reflects a C average or higher, interested in a career in the food industry, 24 years of age or younger, and a person who needs financial support in order to complete their college education.

The Scholarship is a one-year award for \$1500 (\$750 per semester).

HGMRA funds the fall semester; your retailer funds the spring semester.

HOW TO APPLY—

High school seniors: Complete this application and **include a copy of your high school transcript.** Return the application to your store director by Thursday, **January 14, 2010.**

High school graduates: Complete this application and include a **copy of your college transcript.** Return the applications to your store director by Thursday, **January 14, 2010.**

ALL Applicants: Apply for this scholarship if you qualify. Do not forget to include your transcript and to follow directions. Complete the application neatly and thoroughly. Answer all questions that apply. **Essays are to be hand-written and limited to 250-word responses.**

THE PROCESS—

There will only be one round of interviews as application processing and scoring is the first round for qualifying for the scholarship. Applicants will not receive an interview if their application is incomplete (e.g. no transcript is included, store director's remarks are missing, essay questions are not complete, the application is incomplete or directions have not been followed) or if they do not meet the qualifications for the scholarship.

Interview teams consist of a HGMRA member and a representative from one of the area's grocery stores. Interviews will be held at the end of February. If you are selected for the interview round, a map to the interview site will be included with the letter containing your interview appointment. You will be expected to confirm your attendance at the interview.

Scholarship winners will be announced the week of March 8, 2010. Scholarship recipients are **required** to attend the HGMRA Trade Event held in April (date to be announced) where HGMRA members and grocery store representatives will honor them.

INSTRUCTIONS—

Read the application carefully. Follow all directions. Complete the application neatly. Request a transcript. Make sure your essays are **hand-written** and **within the 250-word limit.** Review the checklist at the end of the application. Sign the application. Submit your application before the January 14, 2010 deadline to your store director.

If you have any questions about the HGMRA or the scholarship process, please speak to your store director or your company HR representative. Good luck!

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Answer all questions unless the directions indicate you are not required to do so.

Application should be returned to Store Director no later than January 14, 2010.

I have previously applied for the HGMRA Scholarship. I am a previous HGMRA Scholarship recipient.

All scholarship correspondence will be sent to this physical address, and we may contact you via email if necessary. Provide a complete address. (If you live in an apartment, we need the apartment number, etc.) **Please print or type neatly in order to receive all correspondence.**

Last Name First Name Middle Initial Date of Birth Social Security Number

Current Address City, State, Zip Code Telephone Number Email address (print clearly)

Employment (Note — In order to qualify for this scholarship, you must have been employed as of July 15, 2009.)

I am a full-time employee (30+ hrs.)

I am a part-time employee

1. Name and **COMPLETE** address of current employer Date Employment Began Circle one of the choices above

Position Held Number of hours/week Supervisor's Name Store Telephone Number

Describe your current job responsibilities and accomplishments

2. Previous employment information

1. Name and **COMPLETE** address of current employer Date Employment Began

Position Held Supervisor's Name Telephone Number

Describe your current job responsibilities and accomplishments

3. Other employment information

Company Name Supervisor Telephone Date employment began / ended

Describe your former job responsibilities and accomplishments

Activities

List memberships (past and present) in academic, civic, professional, social or other organizations. Include extra-curricular school activities that you consider relevant to this scholarship. Give year/date information and indicate offices held in any group or organization.

List any sports, hobbies and other interests. What is the extent of your participation? How much time do you devote to them?

Financial Aid (Only answer questions that apply to your personal situation.)

Are you Single Married

If married, provide name of spouse _____

Spouse's occupation _____ Employer _____ Telephone Number _____

If single, do you live alone or with family? _____

Number of children in family _____ Number of children in college _____

Father's occupation _____ Employer _____ Telephone Number _____

Mother's occupation _____ Employer _____ Telephone Number _____

All applicants—answer these questions:

Have you applied for financial aid for college? Yes No

If so, where have you applied? _____

When? _____

What type of aid are you seeking? _____

Essay #1

If you wish, you may glue or tape your hand-written answer on another piece of paper in the space provided. Only hand-written responses will be considered. Please follow directions and submit a response within the 250-word limit.

In 250 words or less---

Why are you applying for this scholarship? Why should you be one of the recipients?

Essay #2

If you wish, you may glue or tape your hand-written answer on another piece of paper in the space provided. Only hand-written responses will be considered. Please follow directions and submit a response within the 250-word limit.

In 250 words or less---

Explain how your career plans relate to the food industry.

Education

Name of high school _____ School address—including city, state, zip _____ School telephone number _____

Have you graduated from high school? Yes No

Date of graduation from high school (List month/year) _____

Date of college entry (List month/year) _____

Have you taken the SAT? Yes No If so, when did you take the SAT? (List month/year) _____

What was your score? _____ If not, when will you take the SAT? (List month/year) _____

Have you taken the ACT? Yes No If so, when did you take the ACT? (List month/year) _____

What was your score? _____ If not, when will you take the SAT? (List month/year) _____

High school seniors—Answer the following questions.

How many students in your graduating class? _____ What is your class rank? _____

What field do you plan to declare as your major in college? _____

List all colleges to which you have applied. Provide date of application and whether or not you have been accepted.

Name of college	Location/Address	Date applied	Accepted?

High school graduates—Answer the following questions.

What is your major? _____ Your minor? _____

Where do you attend college? _____

Name and address (including city, state, zip) of college _____ Telephone number _____

When did you enter college? _____ How many hours of coursework have you completed? _____

Anticipated graduation date: _____

Would receiving this scholarship change your plans for getting a college degree? Yes No

Explain your answer in detail: _____

What other scholarships have you applied for?

What other scholarships will you apply for?

Are there any other honors or awards that offer scholarships that you may qualify for?

Application Checklist — this section is for all applicants

- Do you qualify for the scholarship you are applying for?
- Have you answered all questions on the application?

- I understand if I qualify for an interview that I will be assigned an interview time.
- I understand HGMRA requires me to confirm my scholarship interview appointment.

- I understand that not every applicant will qualify for an interview.
- I understand my application's processing and scoring is the first round of qualifying for the scholarship.
- I understand scholarship interviews will be held during the workweek.
- I understand I will be absent from school or work for a few hours to attend my interview.
- I understand I will need to make arrangements to get to and from the interview site.

- If I am selected, I understand my attendance at the awards event is required.
- If I am selected, I understand I must maintain a C average or higher in my courses.

High school seniors — also review this section.

- Do you plan to attend a college/university or junior college in Texas or Louisiana?
- Do you plan to attend college full-time taking at least 12 hours per semester?
- Did you attach a copy of your high school transcript?
- Do you understand that your completed application must be turned into your store director by January 14, 2010?

Level 2 Applicants — also review this section.

- Are you currently attending a college/university or junior college in Texas or Louisiana?
- Do you plan to attend college part-time taking at least 6 hours per semester?
- Are you working full time and will you continue working full time with the grocer?
- Did you attach a copy of your college transcript?
- Do you understand that your completed application must be turned into your store director by January 14, 2010?

HGMRA considers this process to be an educational opportunity. This program offers you the chance to meet with executives in the food industry and obtain significant funding for your education. Your application begins the process and HGMRA asks you to commit to full participation and to take responsibility for your role. Please respond promptly to all correspondence and support those who are committed to finding candidates who are serious about their education and a career in the food industry.

Your signature attests to the fact your statements on this application are, to the best of your knowledge, truthful and accurate, and to the fact that you agree to participate responsibly in the process.

Signature

Date

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Store Manager's Comments

(To be completed by applicant's store director)

Applicant's Name _____ Full-time/part time? _____ Hours per week worked _____

Please provide the following information about the applicant/employee---

1. Date of hire? _____ (If after 7/15/09 not eligible) Length of time on current assignment? _____

Describe the employee's current assignment responsibilities and accomplishments. _____

2. Please comment on the following traits and give examples of the applicant's behavior that demonstrate these qualities.

Attitude _____

Leadership/Communication Skills _____

Attendance/Punctuality _____

Most Outstanding Character Trait _____

3. Our scholarships go to students interested in a career in the food industry (retail or supply; line or staff). Have you discussed the applicant's interest in pursuing a career in the food industry? Yes No

How do you rate the applicant's seriousness about pursuing such a career?

Serious Interested Needs encouragement Doubtful

4. If ages and experience were reversed, would you like to work for this student? Yes No

Please explain your answer. _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY --

Store Name _____ Store Number _____

Applicant's Immediate Supervisor (print) _____

Store Director _____

Please print name

Signature