

NAO Scholarship Announcement - 2012

NAO is awarding an annual \$500 scholarship, since 2010, to a qualifying high school graduate from Nepali Community in Oregon and SW Washington who is planning to enroll in a 4-year university or college. The goal of the scholarship program is to support most promising local Nepali student to complete intended college degree while encouraging all high school students— of the local Nepali community— to be devoted on their study, and getting their involvement in our community activities.

Objectives:

- Promote interest in higher education competitively among young generation of the community, and to encourage them for a brighter future.
- Promote participation in community services among younger generation to instill in them a sense of social responsibility and commitment toward their communities.
- Promote NAO membership.

Selection Criteria and Process:

NAO Executive Committee (EC) will administer the NAO Scholarship Program. The EC has determined the selection criteria, and the process to select a finalist for the award. The process will be transparent, and will be documented as the program gets implemented. If any EC members, Scholarship Application Grading Committee (SAGC) members, and essay evaluator is related to any of the applicants, in any way, they must rescue themselves from the involvement to selection process. A violation of this tenet will disqualify a successful candidate.

All collected applications will be de-identified by NAO general secretary and the applications will be reviewed and graded by the members of the SAGC members based on the set selection criteria. The executive committee members will not be a part of the SAGC. EC will constitute three members SAGC from local Nepali community, and SAGC members must hold Master degree as a required qualification. A professional chose by Executive Committee will evaluate the personal essays submitted by the applicants. The secretary of NAO Executive Committee will receive graded sheet— in a sealed envelope— from all four evaluators and table it at Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee meeting will open all sealed envelopes and do all necessary tabulation to declare the scholarship winner. If there is any tie between the applicants the scholarship amount will be divided equally between them.

Award:

The award will be \$500 cash/check scholarship with a certificate.

Eligibility Requirements:

- a. Applicants must have resided in either Oregon or Southwest Washington State for more than 6 months before the deadline of application.
- b. Applicants must be of Nepali heritage.
- c. Applicants must be a member of NAO.
- d. Applicants must have at least 3.0 Cumulative GPA.

e. Applicants must be high school seniors. Proof can be the transcript of High School, and the recommendation from a school teacher.

Required documents with application: All applicants are required to submit the following documents in a closed envelope to apply for the scholarship:

1. **Transcripts:** Official / unofficial transcript, with High School cumulative GPA, issued by their school.
2. **Essay:** Applicants must write a 750-1000 words essay describing *personal experiences that have made a difference in their lives, and how he or she will utilize the award money.*
3. **Resume:** Particularly focusing on current standing in school and extracurricular activities; including community participation and voluntary services.
4. **Letter of Recommendation:** A letter of recommendation from high school teacher. Teacher's Evaluation Form must be signed by School Counselor. Click here to [DOWNLOAD the Teacher_Evaluation_Form_2012.doc](#)
5. **NAO Membership:** The status of NAO membership will be verified by the NAO Executive Committee.

Selection Criteria: The applicants will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Applicant's High School GPA-----	60%
Essay -----	15%
Volunteer/Community participation -----	15%
Recommendation -----	10%
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Total:	100%

Timeline:

Orientation for Applicants— Winter break
Application submission deadline— Last day of February
Scholarship winner announcement — April 10
Award distribution—Nepali New Year Party Day

Address to send Application materials:

Bharat Banskota
Secretary, NAO
12430 SW Center Street Apt 112
Beaverton, OR 97005
Call: 503-641-4918