The promise of a higher education shines brightly for all students when they are in elementary school. Yet by the time they enter high school, many are faced with challenges at home and in their community that lead them to think college isn’t a realistic possibility for them. The Masons of California believe every hardworking student who is passionate about learning has the right to a quality education and should not be precluded from the opportunities in life that college often provides. The Investment in Success Scholarship Program aims to support students who don’t automatically think about higher education. Every guidance counselor, teacher and school administrator can think of students who face hardships that prevent them from achieving academic success in the classroom but nevertheless demonstrate the desire, discipline and determination that would enable them to succeed in life. The Masons of California hope to give these students the access they need to fulfill their goals and dreams.

Award Information
Recipients will be awarded with a four-year scholarship valued at $7,000. Students will receive $1,000 for their first year in community college and can renew their award for another year if minimum renewal requirements are met. Students who then transfer to a public, California four-year college or university can renew their scholarship for two more years if minimum requirements are met and will see their award amount increase to $2,500 per year. Summer school and/or a third year of community college support may be available by application to select scholarship recipients. For students beginning their studies at a California State University, their scholarship will follow a schedule of $1,000 in each of the first two years and $2,500 in each of the last two years. The scholarship should primarily be used to pay for tuition and any remaining money can be used for books, supplies or other school-related expenses.

This scholarship is NOT available to students who will be enrolling in a private university, who will be enrolling at a University of California campus directly out of high school, or who will be attending a for-profit college or university.

Applicants should be aware that their names, high school attended, and intended college will be shared publicly. Sections of application essays and stories/information from interviews may also be shared. No personal contact information or financial information will be shared publicly.
ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Please note that a SSN is NOT required to complete an application.

All candidates MUST (required)

- Be high school seniors in San Diego Unified School District
- Have between a 2.25 and 3.25 unweighted, cumulative GPA (based on a 4.0 scale) through their junior year
- Have completed the FAFSA or California Dream Act application for financial aid by the time of application deadline
- Plan to enroll in a community/city college or a California State University (A strong preference will be given to those enrolling in a city/community college)
- If enrolling in a community or city college, plan to transfer to a public four-year institution in order to obtain a Bachelor’s degree or plan to obtain a technical degree
- Plan to enroll in at least 12 units in the upcoming fall semester
- Have an active email address and the ability to check emails on a bi-weekly basis
- Have financial need

Candidates SHOULD furthermore (highly desired)

- Have faced hardships and challenges in their family, communities and/or neighborhoods which have prevented them from achieving academic success
- Not automatically think about higher education or assume it is not a possibility for them
- Likely lack scholarship support from other institutions which tend to predominately base their selection criteria on academic success
- Have strong school attendance, actively participate in class discussions and group projects and take on leadership roles whenever feasible

Candidates MAY additionally (optional)

- Be the first in their family and/or community to graduate from high school and attend college
- Not live in a traditional, two-parent household and/or lack adult mentors and role models who have pursued higher education
- Display an intellectual curiosity in and out of the classroom and a dedication to fulfilling their responsibilities as a student, community member and citizen
- Be committed to the idea of education and demonstrate the desire, discipline and determination needed to succeed in college and life
- Take advantage of any and all opportunities to better themselves and choose to challenge themselves academically by, for example, taking college courses and/or Honors/AP/IB classes when available
- Have verbal and math SAT scores that total 900 or above (Please note that students are still eligible if they have not taken the SAT or have a score under 900)
APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Ensure that all the following are enclosed before submitting your application:

- Complete application
- Short answer essay responses
- Official high school transcript
- A copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR) if you completed the FAFSA; a copy of the California Aid Report (CAR) if you completed the California Dream Act Application. A submission confirmation page can also be used in place of a SAR or CAR.
- Nomination Form completed by a teacher or counselor

Note: Submitting an application does not ensure you will be selected as a scholarship recipient.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Submit to the San Diego and Imperial Counties Cal-SOAP Office by April 22, 2013.

Address: Attn: Investment in Success Scholarship
San Diego Cal-SOAP
6735 Gifford Way, Rm. 14
San Diego, CA 92111

Applications must be in the office by April 22, 2013, NOT postmarked by April 22, 2013.

For school officials in SDUSD, we are connected to school mail. Please write “Cal-SOAP, Revere Center” on the envelope.

INTERVIEW INFORMATION

Finalists will be contacted with an interview time in late April via email. Interviews and selection will happen in May. Please see below for your specific interview date.

- **San Diego**: May 10, 5-8 pm (Mesa College Police Station, San Diego, CA 92111)

You must be available for a 30 minute interview during the designated time frame in your area. Once you apply, you will be assigned an interview slot, and changes to your time will only be made in the event of an emergency. Please indicate ALL of the times you are NOT available on your given interview date.

I am available for all times specified for the interview.
I am NOT available for the following times specified for the interview: ____________________
2013 Investment in Success Scholarship Program Application

SECTION I: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Full Name:
First____________________  Middle____________________  Last____________________

Address:
Street Address: _______________________________________________________________
City: ____________________________________  State: __________  Zip:____________

Home Phone: (____) - _____ - _______  Cell Phone: (____) - _____ - _______

E-mail: __________________________________________________________________

Best Way to Reach You:
□ Call Home Phone  □ Call Cell Phone  □ Text Cell Phone  □ E-mail  □ Letter

Gender:
□ Male  □ Female

Ethnic Background (Please Check All That Apply):
□ African American  □ Pacific Islander  □ Asian  □ American Indian
□ Latino/Hispanic  □ White/Caucasian  □ Multracial  □ Other

Please Specify: _______________________________________________________________

What language(s) do you speak at home? __________________________________________

SECTION II: SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name: __________________________________________________________________

School Address: ________________________________________________________________
City: ________________________________  State: __________  Zip:____________

Office Phone: (____) - _____ - _______  Fax Phone: (____) - _____ - _______

Unweighted, Cumulative GPA Through Junior Year: _________
Weighted, Cumulative GPA Through Junior Year: _________
2013 Investment in Success Scholarship

Have you taken Honors or AP/IB classes? □ Yes □ No

Are you an athlete? □ Yes □ No

Are you considering studying Visual, Media, or Performing Arts? □ Yes □ No

Have you taken the SAT? □ Yes □ No

  SAT Critical Reading Score: __________
  SAT Math Score: __________
  SAT Writing Score: __________

Typically, how often do you go to school? (Check one):
□ I have perfect attendance
□ I have strong attendance (I miss a few days a year)
□ I have good attendance (I miss a few days a month)
□ I have okay attendance (I miss a week every month)

SECTION III: PARENT INFORMATION

Who do you live with most of the time? (Check one):
□ Both Parents □ Father □ Mother
□ Other Please Specify: ______________________

Note: If questions below are not applicable to you, please enter in N/A or select N/A in the required fields.

Father/Guardian Name:
First_________________ Middle____________________ Last____________________

Does your father/guardian have the same home address as yours? □ Yes □ No □ N/A
If no, please add your father/guardian’s home address below.

Street Address: ____________________________________________________________

City: ________________________________ State: __________ Zip:____________

Home Phone: (____) - _____ - _______ Cell Phone: (____) - _____ - _______

Does your father/guardian work? (Check one)
□ Full-time □ Part-time □ Not working □ Disabled
□ Other □ N/A

What is your father/guardian’s occupation? ________________________________
2013 Investment in Success Scholarship

Does your father/guardian speak English? (Check one)
□ No □ Yes, a little □ Yes, can handle most situations
□ Yes, very well □ N/A

What is your father/guardian's education level? (Check one)
□ Did not start or finish high school □ Vocaonal school degree
□ Some college (currently enrolled) □ Some college (not currently enrolled)
□ Two year college degree □ Four year college degree
□ Graduate degree □ N/A

Where did your father/guardian earn his highest degree? ________________________________

Mother/Guardian Name:
First____________________  Middle____________________  Last____________________

Does your mother/guardian have the same home address as yours? □ Yes □ No □ N/A
If no, please add your mother/guardian’s home address below.

Street Address: _________________________________________________________________
City: ________________________________  State: _________  Zip: ______________
Home Phone: (____) - ______- ________  Cell Phone: (____) - ______- ________

Does your mother/guardian work? (Check one)
□ Full-time □ Part-time □ Not working □ Disabled
□ Other □ N/A

What is your mother/guardian’s occupation? _______________________________________

Does your mother/guardian speak English? (Check one)
□ No □ Yes, a little □ Yes, can handle most situations
□ Yes, very well □ N/A

What is your mother/guardian's education level? (Check one)
□ Did not start or finish high school □ Vocaonal school degree
□ Some college (currently enrolled) □ Some college (not currently enrolled)
□ Two year college degree □ Four year college degree
□ Graduate degree □ N/A

Where did your mother/guardian earn her highest degree? _____________________________

Masons of California
SECTION IV: FINANCIAL INFORMATION

How many people live in your household? _________

What are the total salaries and earnings of people in your primary household? (Check one)

□ Less than $9,999
□ Between $10,000 and $19,999
□ Between $20,000 and $29,999
□ Between $30,000 and $49,999
□ Between $50,000 and $74,999
□ Greater than $75,000

Are you eligible for free lunch? □ Yes □ No
Are you eligible for reduced lunch? □ Yes □ No

What is your Expected Family Contribution (EFC)? ___________ (available on page 1 of the FAFSA Student Aid Report or SAR that is e-mailed to you after you complete the FAFSA)

If necessary, use the space below to explain your household’s financial circumstances:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

SECTION V: COLLEGE INFORMATION

Intended College: __________________________

If applicable, intended school of transfer: __________________________

Intended Major: __________________________

Intended Career: __________________________

What will be your living situation during college? (Check one)

□ On-Campus Housing □ Off-Campus Housing □ Living With Parents
□ Other Please Specify: __________________________

Do you plan to work during college? (Check one)

□ Full-time □ Part-time □ Not working □ I Don’t Know
□ Other Please Specify: __________________________
SECTION VI: SHORT ANSWER ESSAYS

Please select two of the following three short essay questions to answer. Please type 2-3 paragraphs in response to each of the two questions you have chosen and attach to this application.

1. Explain a challenge that you have had to overcome or are currently dealing with. What impact has this had in your life and what motivates you to keep trying to achieve your dreams?

2. Describe your community and what changes you would like to make in the future to improve it. What steps do you believe you will need to take to make a profound difference?

3. Discuss the benefits of attending college and the role you would like education to play in your life.

SECTION VII: ATTACHMENTS

1. Submit an official transcript.

2. Submit a copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR) if you completed the FAFSA OR Submit a copy of the California Aid Report (CAR) if you completed the Dream Act Application.
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES
If I am awarded an Investment in Success Scholarship, I agree to the following responsibilities:

- To check my email regularly and to respond within a week to all requests, questions, announcements, and concerns.
- To inform the Masons of California of any changes in my current address, phone number, or email address.
- To participate in all required phone calls, events, meetings, and programs.
- To apply all funds awarded to me toward payment of tuition, fees, books, and/or school related expenses.
- To submit my proof of registration by August 1st to the Masons of California.
- To attend a Public Schools Month event in my region in April 2014 or attend a Masons of California Public Schools Advisory Council meeting in my region to share my progress in school before May 2014.
- To maintain at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA in a community college and a 3.0 GPA at a four-year college or university, and to contact the Masons of California if I do not. I understand that I will be placed on probation and that I have one grading period to improve my academic standing or risk losing my scholarship.
- If at a community college: (1) To enroll in at least 12.0 units each semester (2) To complete at least 30.0 units each school year (i.e. fall semester, spring semester, summer session) (3) To take no more than a total of 14.0 units as Pass/Not Pass in two years.
- If at a California State University: (1) To maintain full-time status each school year (2) To enroll as a full-time student each grading period.
- To contact the Masons of California if I need to request a deferment for a semester, quarter, or longer period of time due to unforeseen circumstances such as financial difficulties, personal/family emergencies, and or medical issues.
- To notify the Masons of California of any significant changes in my student status.
- To return the full amount of the scholarship award to the Masons of California if I withdraw from school.
- To reapply each year no later than June 1.

Check each box and sign below to complete your application.
I certify that the information I have provided in this application is true and complete.
I understand that the information herein may be subject to additional verification at the discretion of the Masons of California.
I have read and understand the Eligibility Requirements, Application Checklist, and Interview Information.
I understand that by applying for this scholarship, my name, high school attending, and intended college will be shared publicly. Sections of application essays and stories/information from interviews may also be shared. No personal contact information or financial information will be shared publicly.

Name (Please Print): ____________________________________ Date: ____________
Signature: __________________________________________________________