



The Tennis Opportunity Program (TOP) Scholarship Application for 2019-2020

TOP is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to provide economically disadvantaged Chicago area youth with the opportunity to achieve excellence—as students, as tennis players, and as productive citizens. The organization has been providing tennis and academic support in the Chicago area for more than 25 years.

The TOP Board of Directors is accepting scholarship applications from Chicago youth, ages 6-18, for the 2018-2019 season. TOP students receive weekly group and/or semi-private tennis lessons, academic support, assistance with tournament expenses, and personal development mentoring.

Completed applications should be sent to:

**Katrinia Hamilton, Student Selection Committee Co-Chair
Tennis Opportunity Program, Inc.
P.O. Box 2158
Oak Park, IL 60303**

OR

E-mail at: Diaspora14@aol.com

Applications must be received by Saturday, June 29, 2019

*Only **COMPLETE** applications will be considered (see page 5).*

Finalists will be interviewed within the first 2 weeks of July.

Selection of TOP Students for 2019-2020 is anticipated by July 31, 2019.

Application for a Tennis Opportunity Program (TOP) Scholarship

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please print. In order to be considered for the TOP program, you must meet **ALL** of the following conditions:

- 1) Applicant must have a "B" average, or better, for the current academic year.
- 2) Applicant must be between the ages of 6-18. If applicant is 11-18 years old, they must have a Chicago District Tennis Association ranking in their age group or show promise of earning one.
- 3) Applicants' parents/guardians must attach the most RECENT W-2 (income statement issued by employer) for all employment worked by both parents **and a copy of their most recent federal tax return, filed with the IRS.** If parents/guardians are divorced, then information regarding the parent, with whom the applicant lives, must be attached.

Please note: This application and **ALL** required attachments are due Saturday, June 29, 2019. An application will not be considered until ALL information is submitted by June 29, 2019. The TOP Board of Directors anticipates making final decisions for the 2019-20 season by July 31, 2019.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Applicant's Name _____

Age : _____ Date of Birth _____ USTA # _____

Parents'/guardians' names: _____

Applicant's home address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home phone: _____

Applicant's email address: _____

Parents'/Guardians' email address: _____

Parents'/Guardians' cell phone: _____ Applicant's cell phone _____

If parents/guardians are not available, whom should we contact in the event of an emergency?

Name: _____ Relation to Family _____

Cell phone: _____ Home phone _____

FAMILY AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Are the applicant's parents Divorced_____ Separated_____ Deceased_____

With whom does the applicant currently live? _____

Total number in household _____ Number of siblings living with applicant _____

Based on the parents'/guardians' current income, what is the total family annual income?

(Provide W-2 forms for both parents and 2017 IRS Income tax return.)

ACADEMICS

School: _____ City/Town _____ Grade in Fall 2019 _____

Grade average for applicants in Grades 2-8 (Example: "A-" or "B+") _____

If applicant is in high school:

- What is applicant's current cumulative GPA? (Example 3.5) _____
- What was applicant's GPA for Fall 2017? _____
- What is applicant's GPA for Spring 2018? _____
- What was applicant's class rank in the last academic year?
(Example 8 out of 425) _____ out of _____

TENNIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Rankings: List all the applicant's United States Tennis Association (USTA) singles and doubles rankings for the past year. If applicant achieved rankings in more than one age group, list rankings from all age groups. Include Chicago District Tennis Association (CDTA), Midwest, and National rankings, if relevant. If applicant does not have a ranking, enter "N/A" in the space.

Singles:

Age Group: _____ CDTA Rank: _____ Midwest Rank _____ National Rank _____

Place of finish in State High School Championships _____

Complete only if ranked in another age group:

Age Group: _____ CDTA Rank: _____ Midwest Rank _____ National Rank _____

Doubles:

Age Group: _____ CDTA Rank: _____ Midwest Rank _____ National Rank _____

Place of finish in State High School Championships: _____

List this year's major tournament results in Singles AND Doubles. Include name of tournament, final round finished, and approximate place of finish.

Singles:

Doubles:

If you are currently taking tennis lessons, or have taken lessons in the past year, please provide the name of the tennis club and a description of the level of the class.

TENNIS LESSON AVAILABILITY

Should you be accepted to the program, we will begin scheduling fall tennis lessons in August. To facilitate this process, please provide us with the days and times that you would prefer to be schedule for group lessons.

Preferred Days: _____

Preferred Times: _____

Preferred Tennis Club _____

GOALS AND BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

On a separate sheet of paper, please write a short essay that answers the questions below. Please limit your total response to two pages in total covering all six questions.

- 1) Tell us about yourself. Write a short biographical sketch.
- 2) Why do you want to be part of the TOP program? How would you benefit?
- 3) What are your tennis goals for the next year?
- 4) What are your academic goals for the next year?
- 5) What are your goals for the future?
- 6) In what extracurricular activities do you participate?

FOR NEW APPLICANTS ONLY

REFERENCES

Please provide us the name of three adults that we can contact who would be able to tell us about your commitment to academics, tennis, and other extracurricular areas. These could include your teachers, coaches, mentors, family friends, etc. **No family members, please.**

1. Name: _____

Title/Position _____

How do you know this person? _____

Telephone Number _____

2. Name: _____

Title/Position _____

How do you know this person? _____

Telephone Number _____

3. Name _____

Title/Position _____

How do you know this person? _____

Telephone Number _____

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

ANY INFORMATION SUBMITTED WITH THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO VERIFICATION. Any falsification of information will result in forfeiture of the TOP scholarship award. My parents'/guardians' signature authorizes release, verification, and retrieval of any information, scholastic or financial, necessary to assist in the decision-making process. All information will be kept strictly confidential.

My parents/guardians agrees to notify the TOP Board of Directors of any change in my current status during the term of program participation.

Applicant Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Please submit with the application ALL the components listed below:

- _____ Contact Information
- _____ Report Card**
- _____ Family and Financial Information (W-2 & IRS Return for 2018)***
- _____ Tennis Accomplishments
- _____ References
- _____ Goals and Biographical Information
- _____ Required Signatures

** Please attach a copy of your final report card for the 2018-2019 school year. The report card must indicate the grades earned each quarter or each semester.

*** Parents must submit their most recent W-2 (income statement issued by employer) for ALL EMPLOYMENT by both parents **AND** a copy of their most recent federal tax return, filed with the IRS. If your parents are divorced, then attach information for the parent with whom you live.

***Information may be submitted both by mail and/or by email. Please make note on the application if additional information will be sent separately. Supplemental information that cannot easily be scanned and emailed (such as the tax return, report card or the essay), may be mailed separately to Katrinia Hamilton at the address listed on the front page. Applications will not be considered until all information is received and submitted. This must occur by Saturday, June 29, 2019,

