

The South Carolina Historical Society

THE JAMES AND CHARLOTTE GIGNILLIAT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES

ELIGIBILITY:

- A. Applicant must be a descendant of a Huguenot who immigrated to the United States of America from Switzerland or France prior to November 18, 1787.
- B. Applicant should show qualities of ability and leadership, should be involved in extra-curricular activities, and should have a good academic record.
- C. Applicant must have applied to an accredited college or university in the United States for full-time undergraduate work (award is contingent upon acceptance of the student by said school).
- D. Financial need of an applicant is not a factor in eligibility.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Applications are available online at <https://schseducation.org/resources/>. Send completed applications to:

Gignilliat Scholarship
South Carolina Historical Society
100 Meeting Street
Charleston, SC 29401

Completed applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked by May 29, 2026 for an application to receive consideration.

AWARDS:

- A. Approximately \$2,500.00 is awarded annually. Depending on the number of applicants, scholarships range from \$500.00 to \$1250.00.
- B. An award may be renewed upon new application by the student, if approved by the selection committee, however renewals are not guaranteed.
- C. Successful candidates will be notified by July 30th, and payment will be forwarded to the applicant's home address.

THE JAMES AND CHARLOTTE GIGNILLIAT SCHOLARSHIP Application

This application form must be completed and accompanied by:

1. Proof, satisfactory to the Selection Committee, that the applicant is a descendant of a Huguenot ancestor who immigrated from either Switzerland or France directly or indirectly, to the United States prior to November 18, 1787.
2. A formal essay (500 words) outlining the applicant's educational plans and career goals.
3. A complete, official transcript of the applicant's academic record, including SAT or ACT scores.
4. A minimum of three letters of recommendation concerning the applicant's ability to meet scholastic and community responsibilities. At least one of these three letters should be from a high school or college instructor.

Rather than resubmitting the above, a current holder of a Gignilliat Scholarship may reapply by submitting the following:

1. A formal essay (500 words) that outlines his or her academic progress and career goals.
2. An updated, official transcript of all academic records.
3. Evidence of involvement and achievement in extracurricular activities.
4. A completed application.

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PART I. PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Applicant's name: _____
2. Applicant's email address: _____
3. Present Address: _____

4. Permanent Address, if different from above: _____

5. Date of Birth: _____
6. Place of Birth: _____
7. Sex: Male ☐ Female ☐
8. Marital Status: Married ☐ Single ☐ Divorced ☐ Other ☐
9. Names of Parents/Guardians: _____

10. Name of High School: _____
11. Location of High School: _____
12. Date of Graduation from High School: _____
13. If you are attending or have attended college, please provide the following:
- Name of college or university: _____
- Terms completed: _____
14. List your top 3 college choices:
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
14. Grade Point Average: _____
15. Class Rank: _____
16. List the college/s that you have been accepted to:
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
17. What date do you plan to enroll? _____
18. What is your anticipated field of study? _____
19. List the major academic honors that you have received in High School:
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
19. List any clubs/organizations that you belong to:
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
20. List any other awards or honors that you have received, or offices held:
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

d. _____

21. List any other scholarships or loans that you have applied for or received:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

22. Describe your work experience, including volunteer work:

23. If you have made a definite career choice, please describe:

24. SAT / ACT scores (circle one)

Verbal: _____

Math: _____

Writing _____

Please proceed to Part II on page 5

PART II. PROOF OF HUGUENOT ANCESTRY

Name: _____

Citizenship: _____ **Name of Huguenot Ancestor: _____

Huguenot Ancestor _____ Born (date/place) _____ Died (date/place) _____ Spouse's Name _____

1. Father/Mother:

2. Grand:

3. Gt. Grand:

4. 2nd Gt. Grand:

5. 3rd Gt. Grand:

6. 4th Gt. Grand:

7. 5th Gt. Grand:

8. 6th Gt. Grand:

9. 7th Gt. Grand:

10. 8th Gt. Grand:

11. 9th Gt. Grand:

12. 10th Gt. Grand:

** Ancestor must have left France or Switzerland and settled in what is now the United States of America prior to November 18, 1787.

PROOF OF DESCENT

References must be placed opposite the generation for which they are intended, volume and page included. ALL REFERENCES MUST BE SUBSTANTIATED BY COPIES. APPLICATIONS WITHOUT PROPER REFERENCES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTEED.

Generation:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

Applicant specifically acknowledges that the portions of this application detailing genealogical information (pages 5 and 6) are valid and will be kept by the South Carolina Historical Society and placed in its collection.

Date: _____ Signature of Applicant: _____

In the event that I am awarded a Gignilliat Scholarship, I agree to return the full amount immediately to the South Carolina Historical Society if it is not used for the term and/or at the campus specified.

Date: _____ Signature of Applicant: _____