



## **2020-2021 BE THE LIGHT® Scholarship Instructions**

We are pleased to invite high school students who are seeking to enroll in a private school to apply for an BE THE LIGHT® Scholarship. The scholarship recognizes and honors the BE THE LIGHT® spirit of Ari J. Arteaga. Ari was a beacon a light for everyone who knew him. He was a loving son, older brother, and good friend to so many. He was a student at Christopher Columbus High School where he played football and baseball. More importantly, he had a heart for service and touched the lives of many with his natural ability to make people feel cared for. He empowered and brought out the best in others. He never put himself above anyone. He had nothing but joy and enthusiasm for life. All of these characteristics are the basis of this scholarship.

**NOTE: Prior to applying to the Ari J. Arteaga Foundation for financial aid, applicant must apply for Step Up, AAA, and McKay (if applicable) financial aid. In addition, applicant must also apply for their school's financial aid. All financial aid award letters must be submitted with the Foundation's application.**

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

***Student must meet the following requirements:***

1. Minimum GPA of 3.0.
2. Has not been expelled from any school.
3. Has had good conduct the past three years, which will be verified with school administration.
4. Must provide two letters of recommendation – one from school and the other from non-family member.
5. Has not missed more than four days of school a year for the past three years unless the student or a family member has experienced a sudden illness or chronic ailment.
6. Has actively participated in some level of community service over the last two years.
7. If the student is involved in an extracurricular/after school activity, it must either be free or sponsored.

***Student and/or his/her family is currently experiencing a financial hardship due to at least one of following:***

1. Sudden illness or chronic ailment affecting the health of the student or an immediate family member, which has resulted in a loss of income; and
2. Low income household depending on number of dependents. <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/housing/income-limits.page>

***Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of application, essay, financial need, scholastic excellence, community service and activities, and letters of recommendation.***

## **2020-2021 BE THE LIGHT® Scholarship Application Checklist**

You must correctly fill out the application and include this checklist and any documents listed below.

Please check the box(es) that apply:

### ***Financial Assistance Received:***

- Please provide a copy of the financial aid award letter from Step Up and/or AAA.
- Please provide copy of the McKay approved award letter (may ask for income verification).

### ***Student must meet the following requirements:***

- Minimum GPA of 3.0 – *Provide copy of official school transcripts.*
- Has not been expelled from any school.
- Has had good conduct the past three years to be verified with school administration.
- Has not missed more than four days of school a year for the past three years unless the student or family member has experienced a sudden illness or chronic ailment.
- Must provide two letters of recommendation – one from school and the other from non-family member. *(see the Ari J. Arteaga-BE THE LIGHT® Scholarship Application: Letter of Recommendation Form at the end of the application).*
- Has actively participated in some level of community service over the last two years. – *Provide proof in the form of a letter from the organization including student applicant's name and number of hours served.*
- Is involved in an extracurricular/after school activity either free or sponsored.

### ***Student and/or his/her family is currently experiencing a financial hardship due to at least one of following:***

- Sudden illness or chronic ailment affecting the health of the student or an immediate family member, which has resulted in a loss of income; and
- Low income household depending on number of dependents.

**An interview and additional documentation may be requested to make a final decision for approval of the BE THE LIGHT® Scholarship.**

# BE THE LIGHT<sup>®</sup> SCHOLARSHIP

## Recipient and Family Information

### Student Applicant Information:

1. First and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Name of school student will be attending in the Fall 2020: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade entering fall of 2020: \_\_\_\_\_
6. GPA: \_\_\_\_\_
7. Number of absences per year in the past two years: Last year: \_\_\_\_ Year Before Last: \_\_\_\_
8. School attended in the previous school year: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Community Service in the past two years:  
Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Community Service Hours: \_\_\_\_\_
10. School attended in 2019-2020: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent Information:

11. Does recipient live with (check one)  Mother  Father or  Both Parents
12. Are parents (check one)  Married  Divorced  Widowed
13. Mother's First Name and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_
14. Mother's Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

15. Mother's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

16. Father's First Name and Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

17. Father's Cell Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

18. Father's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

19. Number of children in the household: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list information about the child(ren) in the table below.

Child's First and Last Name	Date of Birth	Grade	School Currently Attending

**Financial Assistance Information**

20. What is the total household income in for this year and last year?

2020 estimated: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2019 actual: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

21. Have you applied for financial assistance from any of the 4 options listed below? *(check all that apply).*

*Note: If you applied for McKay you must also qualify for the school's financial aid.*

- Step Up       AAA       McKay(if applicable)       School's Financial Aid

22. Have you been awarded financial assistance from any of the four options listed below for 2020-2021?

If so, what amount? *(check all applicable)*

Step Up: \$ \_\_\_\_\_       AAA: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

McKay (if applicable): \$ \_\_\_\_\_       School's Financial Aid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_





**AUTHORIZATION AND CONSENT FOR RELEASE OF  
FINANCIAL AID DOCUMENTS AND PERSONAL INFORMATION**

I, (Parent/Guardian's First and Last Name) \_\_\_\_\_, hereby authorize (School's Name) \_\_\_\_\_ to release to the Ari J Arteaga Foundation, Inc. all of my financial aid application documents, which I have submitted to the school, and information about my child, (Son/Daughter's First and Last Name) \_\_\_\_\_, as it pertains to the qualifications of the BE THE LIGHT® Scholarship. I understand these documents and information will be used by the Foundation to assist them in making a determination as to my son/daughter's BE THE LIGHT® Scholarship application.

**By my signature, I acknowledge this consent and authorization to be valid. I understand that this consent remains in effect until written revocation from me is received by the above mentioned school. I also understand that such revocation does not affect disclosures previously made.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Parent/Guardian First and Last Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## BE THE LIGHT® Scholarship Application: Letter of Recommendation

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Thank you for submitting a letter of recommendation on behalf of the Ari J. Arteaga Foundation, Inc. (AAF) BE THE LIGHT scholarship applicant. Your evaluation is an important element in the application and helps the review committee understand the applicant. Please make a statement describing the applicant's character, school and community involvement as well as evidence of the student's strengths and weaknesses, not to exceed one page in length. AAF is particularly interested in how you feel the student might adapt/excel at a private school environment. Please attach this form to your letter of recommendation on your personal or faculty letterhead.

**Please note: only academic or professional recommendations will be accepted. Parents, immediate family members, friends or acquaintances, school counselors, etc. are not eligible to write an evaluation.**

I am writing this evaluation on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluator's name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to applicant \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known the applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a confidential evaluation?

Yes

No

Evaluator Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

This cover sheet and the Letter of Recommendation can be submitted as an email attachment to [yarteaga@ariarteagafoundation.org](mailto:yarteaga@ariarteagafoundation.org) or given to the student for them to include with their application.

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