

# STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

*For College Students*



Liberia Education Advancement Project, Inc.

PO Box 9096 | Zarephath, NJ [www.leap4liberia.org](http://www.leap4liberia.org)

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## A. About Financial Assistance from **LEAP**.

1. **LEAP** wants to help provide funding for the tuition and other school expenses of students who are in need and who qualify for assistance. At present, **LEAP** will award each approved college student a scholarship of up to \$300.00 USD (*three hundred US dollars*) per semester.
2. To be approved for assistance, or for continuing assistance, **LEAP** requires a college student to maintain a GPA of at least 2.5.
3. It is **LEAP's** desire, not only to educate, but to educate educators. Therefore, at some point while you are receiving scholarship assistance for college, **LEAP** may want to direct your attention to certain employment opportunities in the field of education in Liberia, that **LEAP** is interested in seeing filled. Upon graduation from college, this could be an opportunity for you to have immediate employment as a teacher and to gain job experience. Please know that any obligation to work with **LEAP** in this way, following your graduation from college, would be for a clearly-defined period of time.

## B. Instructions for Completing this Application to **LEAP**.

1. As a college student, you will need to submit an application for assistance every semester.
2. Please print clearly when you provide the information that is required. And be truthful. If this form is incomplete or inaccurate, the processing of your application could be delayed or terminated.
3. The board of **LEAP** requires you, the applicant, to describe any family relationship that may exist between you and any current **LEAP** board member and/or **LEAP** representative (*see questions 7. and 8. in the fill-in portion of this application form*). If you are related to a **LEAP** board member or representative, that person will be excluded from all scholarship award discussions regarding you. Furthermore, as the relative of either a **LEAP** board member or a **LEAP** representative, you will be required to comply with certain **LEAP** policies in order to receive **LEAP** scholarship money.
4. If this is your first time applying to **LEAP** for assistance for college, then you will need to include letters of recommendation with this application form. Even if you have received assistance from **LEAP** in the past for any part of your earlier (high school) education, you will still need the letters of recommendation described below, in order to receive further assistance from **LEAP** for your college education:
  - a. If you are entering your first year of college, submit two letters of recommendation:  
One from one of your high school teachers (or from your high school principal) and one from your pastor (or a reputable Christian ministry leader or community leader who knows you well).

—OR—

  - b. If you are entering your second year of college, or beyond, submit three letters of recommendation:  
One from one of your college instructors, one from the college administration, and one from your pastor (or a reputable Christian leader or community leader who knows you well).

5. If you are applying for assistance for your first year of college education, then you will need to submit photocopies of your high school diploma and your WAEC certificate. Your **LEAP** representative may want to see your original documents. If you do not have these documents yet, then you will need to give photocopies of them to your **LEAP** representative, as soon as you are able to do so.
6. Each year that you apply, **LEAP** will need a recent, good-quality, color photograph of you. Feel free to ask your **LEAP** representative to take this picture for you, so that **LEAP** can have this photo as a high-resolution computer file.
7. Before submitting your completed application and other requirements, make sure that you have not forgotten anything! The checklist at the end of this application form should help.
8. You must contact your **LEAP** representative in Liberia, either in person or by phone, to receive instructions regarding how your application form and the other supporting documents are to be submitted. Do NOT send them by a friend, or by any other means, unless you have the representative's prior approval.
9. If you have any question about any part of this form, please contact your **LEAP** representative and ask!

## C. Information That **L.E.A.P.** Needs to Have.

### Personal Information:

1. Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Your Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_
3. City or Town: \_\_\_\_\_ 4. County: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Phone Number (where **LEAP** can contact you): \_\_\_\_\_
6. Email Address (where **LEAP** can contact you): \_\_\_\_\_

### Possible Family Relationship:

7. Are you related in any way to a **LEAP** board member, or a **LEAP** representative, or someone in their family? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
8. If "Yes", please use these lines to describe the relationship: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **Academic Information:**

9. What is the name of the college you are hoping to attend, with the help of this **LEAP** scholarship?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Circle the year ( 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> ) and the semester ( 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> ) in college, for which you hope to use this **LEAP** scholarship.

*If you are going into your first year of college, answer only questions 11. through 15. below.*

*If you are already in college, answer only questions 16. through 20. below.*

11. If you are starting college, what senior high school(s) did you attend?

\_\_\_\_\_

12. What year did you graduate? \_\_\_\_\_ 13. What was your overall 12<sup>th</sup> grade average? \_\_\_\_\_ %

14. Did you pass the national exam? \_\_\_\_\_ 15. What was your national exam average? \_\_\_\_\_ %

16. If you are already in college, how many credit hours have you earned so far? \_\_\_\_\_ hours

17. If you are already in college, what is your major? \_\_\_\_\_

Your minor? \_\_\_\_\_ Or are you still undecided? \_\_\_\_\_

18. If you are a college student, what degree are you hoping to earn? \_\_\_\_\_

19. If you are a college student, what is your present GPA? \_\_\_\_\_

20. If you are in college, what is your expected year of graduation? \_\_\_\_\_

## **D. Required Essay for **LEAP**.**

Using the lines provided for you on the next page, please write at least half a page, telling us why you want a college education and why you think you should be awarded this scholarship from **LEAP**. *Without this essay, **LEAP** cannot award you any scholarship assistance (or any further scholarship assistance, if you are already receiving help from **LEAP**).*



## E. Your Agreement with **LEAP**.

When you have completed this application form and written the required essay, please initial each of the following statements. In this way you are indicating that you have read each statement and that you agree with it. Finally, you will need to place your signature and the date at the bottom.

- \_\_\_\_\_ I certify that the information I have provided to **LEAP** in this application is true, to the best of my knowledge.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that I must maintain high grades (that is, a GPA of at least 2.5), in order to qualify for scholarship funding from **LEAP**.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that scholarship funding from **LEAP** for a college student will be limited to no more than \$300 US per semester semester.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I understand that **LEAP** may want to discuss with me my availability for a job in the field of education, following my graduation from college.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I grant my permission for all information in this application to be shared with the Trustees and Representatives of **LEAP**.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I grant my permission for **LEAP** to use my name, my photo, and the personal information I have provided, to raise scholarship funds for me and other Liberian students.

Applicant's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## F. Checklist for Submitting Your Application to **LEAP**.

Before submitting your application, make sure that you have not overlooked anything. To help you, here is a list of the items you need to submit to your **LEAP** representative:

- 1. APPLICATION FORM:** Have you completely filled in all parts of the application form that apply to you? Have you printed all the information clearly?
- 2. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:** Have you included the required letters of recommendation: three for first-year college students, two for returning college students (*see section B.4.*)
- 3. HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA:** If you are starting college, have you included a photocopy of your high school diploma, or will you submit it later? Are you prepared to show your **LEAP** representative your original high school diploma?
- 4. WAEC CERTIFICATE:** If you are starting college, have you included a photocopy of your West Africa Examination Council certificate 12<sup>th</sup> grade certificate, or will you submit it later? Are you prepared to show your **LEAP** representative your original WAEC certificate?
- 5. PHOTO:** Have you included a recent, high-quality photo of yourself (or instead, have you asked your **LEAP** representative to take this picture for you)?