

THE NEW MEXICO AUTISM SOCIETY KHEAVEN SENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND was created in memory of Kevin DeAnda, a 2001 Eldorado High School graduate who had Autism and severe mental illness. It is being made possible in part by the generosity of his family and friends, the Autism community and other generous donors through collaboration with the New Mexico Autism Society. The scholarship fund was established to continue the pattern of kindness that Kevin regularly showed others in his daily life and to encourage individuals with a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder to pursue and achieve their academic goals. Through this fund, Kevin's memory will live on by providing funds to deserving New Mexico students touched by Autism who plan on attending or are already enrolled in an eligible accredited college or university under the Internal Revenue Code. To learn more, please visit www.nmautismsociety.org

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Institution: Any eligible accredited college or university under the Internal Revenue Code

Total Scholarship Amount: A minimum of one (1) scholarship will be awarded in the amount of \$500.00. Additional scholarship awards may become available if funding allows at the discretion of the New Mexico Autism Society board of directors.

Qualifying requirements to apply:

- Applicants must be of good character
- Applicants must be a NM high school senior or a NM high school graduate who has been awarded their diploma within the past 12 months or a current student enrolled in a New Mexico college or university.
- Applicants must have a medical diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- Applicants must be pursuing a degree or certificate in a qualified program of training designed to prepare students for gainful employment in a recognized occupation.
- Applicants must be able to provide an acceptance letter or written verification of eligibility to attend from a college or university that is accredited by a nationally recognized accreditation agency.

Application Process

Applicants must meet all qualifying requirements and submit a completed scholarship application with **ALL** required documents attached in order to be considered.

Selection Process

All scholarship applications will be reviewed by the New Mexico Autism Society Scholarship Committee, with applicants being selected based upon their qualifying criteria, completed scholarship application with required documentation, letters of recommendation and essays. Please see application for details.

Submit questions to Scholarships@nmautismsociety.org

**THE NEW MEXICO AUTISM SOCIETY KHEAVEN SENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND
APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP**

NAME: _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ MALE _____ FEMALE _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

HIGH SCHOOL YOU WILL GRADUATE FROM: _____

GRADUATION DATE: _____ CURRENT GPA: _____

NAME OF COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY YOU PLAN TO ATTEND: _____

COLLEGE ENTRANCE SCORES IF APPLICABLE: SAT _____ ACT _____

PLANNED COURSE OF STUDY: _____

Attach the following information to your completed application.

1. Please list all participation in school activities, school organizations, awards received and positions held while in high school.
2. Please list all community and volunteer activities you are or have been involved in outside of school. Please include the name of the organization involved, and how long you participated with each one.
3. Please list any prior and present job experience including job duties and responsibilities.
4. Please explain the goals you have set for yourself both during and after completing your education.
5. Please write an essay of 1000 words or less on kindness that includes the following:
 - a. How you practice acts of kindness in your daily life and how you have inspired others to do the same
 - b. How the kindness of others has impacted your life
 - c. Whether you believe acts of kindness can change the world and why
6. Please attach a copy of your most recent diagnostic evaluation verifying a diagnosis of an Autism Spectrum Disorder.
7. Please attach copies of official school transcripts
8. Please attach 2 letters of recommendation from a teacher, coach, employer or other support provider that is not related to you.

Disclaimer: Scholarships will only be awarded to persons with Autism Spectrum Disorders. If no qualified applications are received, funds will be carried over.

Applications must be received no later than May 1st at 5:00pm (Mountain Daylight Time)

Scholarship recipients will be selected and notified no later than June 1st.

PLEASE NOTE: All scholarship awards will be issued directly to the educational institution listed on the application on behalf of the scholarship recipient upon verification of enrollment and may be used for tuition, fees, books, adaptive technical equipment, or other educational expenses as permitted by the Internal Revenue Code.

Please submit completed application and all required documentation by email to:

Scholarships@nmautismsociety.org