

G. Thomas Balsbaugh Memorial Fund Scholarship Application

Applicant Information

Please use proper capitalization, i.e. John A. Smith, not JOHN A SMITH or john a smith

Prefix e.g., Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. Miss	First Name Precious	Middle Initial M	Last Name Rivera	Suffix e.g., Jr.
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Pronoun
e.g., he, she, they
she

Nickname or Preferred Name

Address 1 Street Address 60 Ivey Lane	Address 2 Apt./Unit #
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City Harrisburg	County Other in PA	State Pennsylvania	Zip Code 17104
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Phone
XXX-XXX-XXXX
7173150115

E-mail Address
Please provide an e-mail address you will continue to check throughout the year
preciousmriviera@gmail.com

Date of Birth September 09, 2001	Gender Female
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Are you Married? No	Name of Spouse if applicable
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Number of Dependents and Age(s)
if applicable

Family Information

Parent 1 / Caregiver 1

Relationship to Applicant

Mother

Prefix e.g., Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. Ms	First Name Sandra	Middle Initial I	Last Name Santos
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Pronoun
e.g., he, she, they
she

Employer unemployed	Occupation
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Address 1 Home Address 60 Ivey Lane	Address 2 Apt./Unit #
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City Harrisburg	State PA	Zip 17104
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Home Phone xxx-xxx-xxxx 7176862823	Work Phone xxx-xxx-xxxx	Cell Phone xxx-xxx-xxxx
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E-mail Address

Please provide an e-mail address that is checked regularly

Parent 2 / Caregiver 2

Relationship to Applicant

<None>

Prefix e.g., Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs.	First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name
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Pronoun
e.g., he, she, they

Employer	Occupation
----------	------------

Address 1 Home Address	Address 2 Apt./Unit #
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City	State	Zip
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Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell Phone
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XXX-XXX-XXXX

XXX-XXX-XXXX

XXX-XXX-XXXX

E-mail Address

Please provide an e-mail address that is checked regularly

Father Deceased?

No

Mother Deceased?

No

Parents Divorced?

Yes

Are you the first in your family to attend college?

Yes

List names, ages, and educational levels of siblings living in your household:

Name, Age, Grade, or Year in College & Name of College

Please provide any additional information regarding your family, if necessary:

Parents are separated but have never been married. I do not know the whereabouts of my father.

High School Information

High School Attending

Harrisburg High School SciTech Campus

High School Address 1

High School Address 2

City

harrisburg

State

Pennsylvania

Zip Code

17104

High School Graduation Date

June 06, 2020

Cumulative GPA

3.8529

Cumulative Class Rank

30

Total H.S. Class Size

294

Please provide your school counselor's name and contact information below.

Prefix

e.g., Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs.

Dr

First Name

Stacey

Last Name

Rossi

Phone

XXX-XXX-XXXX

7177031900

E-mail Address

srossi@hbgsd.us

Post-Secondary Information & Educational Financing

Please list the colleges/universities to which you have applied and indicate your acceptance status.

College/University 1

Acceptance Status

Drexel University Pending

College/University 2 Acceptance Status

Penn State University Yes

College/University 3 Acceptance Status

Temple University Yes

Year in college for upcoming school year

Freshman

Major and minor field of study

Biology

Check this box if you plan to be a full-time student.

Yes

If you do not plan to be a full-time student,

how many credit hours are you planning to take?

Expected College Graduation Date

June 01, 2024

Please provide educational financing information for the school you will attend in the fall.
If you are unsure of what school you will attend, please provide information for your first choice school.

ALL DOLLAR FIGURES SHOULD REFLECT EXPENSES FOR ONE FULL ACADEMIC YEAR

School

Drexel University

Expected Annual Tuition & Fees

Total dollar figure for both fall & spring semesters

51,030

Expected Annual Room & Board

Total dollar figure for both fall & spring semesters

14,079

Expected Annual Textbooks & Supplies

Total dollar figure for both fall & spring semesters

1,700

Where do you plan to live during the school year?

Please indicate if you will be living in campus housing, commuting, living off campus etc.

campus housing

Are you financing your own education?

Yes

How much of your education are you financing?

dollar figure for one academic year

If no or partial, who is helping to finance your education?

How much of your education are they supporting?

dollar figure for one academic year

Do you plan to take out student loans for the upcoming year?

Loans include federal subsidized, unsubsidized, and private loans

Yes

If yes, how much?

dollar figure

Do you plan to have employment during the academic year?

Employment includes participating in a work study program and private employment

Yes

If yes, how many hours will you work per week? How much will you earn?

Include hours and dollar figure

Use the space below to describe how you will finance the total of your education and provide any clarification needed for the answers given above.

Truthfully, I come from a low-income family and don't expect much financial aid assistance from any relatives. However, I am working on finding scholarships and work to help pay for the university that I will be attending.

Attachments

Title	File Name
Student Resume	Precious Rivera College Resume (1).docx
Personal Essay	Personal Essay.docx
FAFSA Student Aid Report	fafsa.pdf
Other Scholarship Information	OtherScholarshipInformation.doc
Letter of Reference	PR letter.docx
Letter of Reference	Precious LOR.docx
Letter of Extenuating Circumstances	letter+of+circumstances.docx



OTHER SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Please list all other scholarships you have applied for (attach an additional sheet of paper if more space is needed):

Scholarship Name	Received	Amount: \$
LISA M. WALLER AWARD	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending	_____
STOP THE BLEED SCHOLARSHIP	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Pending	Amount: \$3000
THE ELAINE AND ROBERT SIEGEL SCHOLARSHIP F	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pending	Amount: \$ _____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Pending	Amount: \$ _____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Pending	Amount: \$ _____
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_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Pending	Amount: \$ _____
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Pending	Amount: \$ _____

Precious Rivera

60 Ivey Lane, HBG, PA

Mobile: 717-592-0010 | preciousmriviera@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Harrisburg High School SciTech Campus

215 Market St, HBG, PA 17104

GPA: Weighted: 3.8529

EXPERIENCE

Leadership Institute Star Training Opportunities (LISTO) Program

LHACC, HBG, PA

Student

2018

- Took part in 6 learning sessions about team building, decision making, conflict resolution, life skills, career pathways, and additional leadership concepts designed to positively impact an individual's personal growth and future direction.

Dominican Republic Volunteer Trip

Traveler

2018

- 40 hours of community service. Planted trees and help prep 1,000 seedling pod, painted children's area at the environmental learning center, painted totem poles leading to the water quality area, repaired broken steps and worked with construction of bridge by the water conservation area at the learning center, weeded in seedling beds and painted murals at student living centers.

PULSE Program 2019

Student

2019-2020

- PULSE interacts with high school students to further an interest in medicine through interactive lectures, problem based learning sessions, and shadowing opportunities. The PULSE program is a semester long academic course taught at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. PULSE.

Community Tutor

2018-2019

- Tutored children of ages 7-14 during the school year. Typically, they were invited in my home to study their homework and ask for help when needed, as well as reviewed topics they were unsure of during our session. No charge.

Special Olympics

Special Olympics Buddy

2017-2018

- Guided children with intellectual disabilities through activities and track competition, helping them have a day of fun.

Color Run

Fundraiser

2016-2017

- Helped raise money for breast cancer awareness in both 9th and 10th grade.

Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community

Participant at HACC

2018

- Participated in a 5K Walk to help raise money for individual missions that benefit local health and human service agencies.

AWARDS/HONORS

- **Distinguished Honors (2017-2018):**

Recognized for making honors for three consecutive marking periods.

- **Student of the Month (Oct. 2017):**

Given student of the month from SciTech in the year of 2018.

- **Certificate of Recognition (2018):**

Robert Torres, Acting Secretary of State, recognized myself on successfully completing the Leadership Institute Star Training Opportunities program by LHACC.

- **Color Run Top Fundraiser (2016):**

Recognized by SciTech Campus for fundraising the most money for breast cancer awareness.

2020-2021

Electronic Student Aid Report (SAR)

The SAR summarizes the information you submitted on your 2020-2021 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Application Receipt Date:	10/01/2019	XXX-XX-2760 RI 04
Processed Date:	01/15/2020	EFC: 0 *
		DRN: 4715

Comments About Your Information

Learn about [federal tax benefits for education](#), including the *American Opportunity Tax Credit* (AOTC).

Based on the information we have on record for you, your EFC is 0. You may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant and other federal student aid. Your school will use your EFC to determine your financial aid eligibility for federal grants, loans, and work-study, and possible funding from your state and school.

Your FAFSA has been selected for a review process called verification. Your school has the authority to request copies of certain financial documents from you and your parent(s).

There is a limit to the total amount of Federal Pell Grants that a student may receive, which is the equivalent of 6 school years. Once a total amount of Pell Grant eligibility has been received, a student can no longer receive Pell Grant aid.

WHAT YOU MUST DO NOW (Use the checklist below to make sure that all of your issues are resolved.)

Be sure to review the items marked with a 'h' and make any corrections if necessary by clicking 'Make FAFSA Corrections' on the 'My FAFSA' page.

We assumed you did not file and will not file a 2018 income tax return (Item 32). Review this item.

If you need to make corrections to your information, click 'Make FAFSA Corrections' on the 'My FAFSA' page using your FSA ID. If you need additional help with your SAR, contact your school's financial aid office or click the 'Help' icon on the FAFSA home page. If your mailing address or e-mail address changes, you can make the correction online.

Based on your EFC of 0, you may be eligible to receive a Federal Pell Grant of up to \$6,195 for the 2020-2021 school year provided you have not met or exceeded the lifetime limit established for the Federal Pell Grant program.

FAFSA Data

Assumed fields, based on the data you entered, are marked with an '*' (asterisk) sign.

1. Student's Last Name:	RIVERA
2. Student's First Name:	PRECIOUS
3. Student's Middle Initial:	M
4. Student's Permanent Mailing Address:	60 IVEY LANE
5. Student's Permanent City:	HARRISBURG
6. Student's Permanent State:	PA
7. Student's Permanent ZIP Code:	17104
8. Student's Social Security Number:	XXX-XX-2760
9. Student's Date of Birth:	09/09/2001
10. Student's Telephone Number:	(717) 592-0010
11. Student's Driver's License Number:	
12. Student's Driver's License State:	
13. Student's E-mail Address:	preciousrivera@gmail.com
14. Student's Citizenship Status:	YES, I AM A U.S. CITIZEN (OR U.S. NATIONAL)
15. Student's Alien Registration Number:	
16. Student's Marital Status:	I AM SINGLE
17. Student's Marital Status Date:	
18. Student's State of Legal Residence:	PA
19. Was Student a Legal Resident Before January 1, 2015?	YES
20. Student's Legal Residence Date:	
21. Is the Student Male or Female?	FEMALE
22. Register Student With Selective Service System?	
23. Drug Conviction Affecting Eligibility?	ELIGIBLE FOR AID
24. Parent 1 Educational Level:	COLLEGE OR BEYOND
25. Parent 2 Educational Level:	OTHER/UNKNOWN
26. High School or Equivalent Completed?	HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA
27a. Student's High School Name:	HARRISBURG HIGH SCHOOL SCITECH CAMPUS
27b. Student's High School City:	HARRISBURG
27c. Student's High School State:	PA
28. First Bachelor's Degree before 2020-2021 School Year?	NO
29. Student's Grade Level in College in 2020-2021:	NEVER ATTENDED COLLEGE/1ST YR.
30. Type of Degree/Certificate:	1ST BACHELOR'S DEGREE
31. Interested in Work-study?	DONT KNOW
32. Student Filed 2018 Income Tax Return?	h
33. Student's Type of 2018 Tax Form Used:	h
34. Student's 2018 Tax Return Filing Status:	
35. Student Filed Schedule 1?	
36. Student's 2018 Adjusted Gross Income:	h
37. Student's 2018 U.S. Income Tax Paid:	h
38. Student's 2018 Income Earned from Work:	
39. Spouse's 2018 Income Earned from Work:	
40. Student's Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts:	
41. Student's Net Worth of Current Investments:	
42. Student's Net Worth of Businesses/Investment Farms:	
43a. Student's Education Credits:	
43b. Student's Child Support Paid:	
43c. Student's Taxable Earnings from Need-Based Employment Programs:	
43d. Student's College Grant and Scholarship Aid Reported to IRS as Income:	
43e. Student's Taxable Combat Pay Reported in AGI:	
43f. Student's Cooperative Education Earnings:	
44a. Student's Payments to Tax-Deferred Pensions & Retirement Savings:	
44b. Student's Deductible Payments to IRA/Keogh/Other:	
44c. Student's Child Support Received:	
44d. Student's Tax Exempt Interest Income:	
44e. Student's Untaxed Portions of IRA Distributions and Pensions:	
44f. Student's Housing, Food, & Living Allowances:	
44g. Student's Veterans Noneducation Benefits:	
44h. Student's Other Untaxed Income or Benefits:	
44i. Money Received or Paid on Student's Behalf:	
45. Student Born Before January 1, 1997?	NO
46. Is Student Married?	NO
47. Working on Master's or Doctorate in 2020-2021?	NO
48. Is Student on Active Duty in U.S. Armed Forces?	NO
49. Is Student a Veteran?	NO
50. Does Student Have Children He/She Supports?	NO
51. Does Student Have Dependents Other than Children/Spouse?	NO
52. Parents Deceased?/Student Ward of Court?/In Foster Care?	NO
53. Is or Was Student an Emancipated Minor?	NO
54. Is or Was Student in Legal Guardianship?	NO
55. Is Student an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth as Determined by High School/Homeless Liaison?	NO
56. Is Student an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth as Determined by HUD?	NO
57. Is Student an Unaccompanied Homeless Youth as Determined by Director of Homeless Youth Center?	NO
58. Parents' Marital Status:	NEVER MARRIED
59. Parents' Marital Status Date:	
60. Parent 1 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) Social Security Number:	

61. Parent 1 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) Last Name:	
62. Parent 1 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) First Name Initial:	
63. Parent 1 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) Date of Birth:	
64. Parent 2 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) Social Security Number:	XXX-XX-7525
65. Parent 2 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) Last Name:	SANTOS
66. Parent 2 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) First Name Initial:	I
67. Parent 2 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) Date of Birth:	04/10/1968
68. Parents' E-mail Address:	ssantos9901@gmail.com
69. Parents' State of Legal Residence:	PA
70. Were Parents Legal Residents Before January 1, 2015?	YES
71. Parents' Legal Residence Date:	
72. Parents' Number of Family Members in 2020-2021:	3
73. Parents' Number in College in 2020-2021 (Parents Excluded):	1
74. Parents Received Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income?	NO
75. Parents Received SNAP?	NO
76. Parents Received Free/Reduced Price Lunch?	NO
77. Parents Received TANF?	NO
78. Parents Received WIC?	NO
79. Parents Filed 2018 Income Tax Return?	NOT GOING TO FILE
80. Parents' Type of 2018 Tax Form Used:	
81. Parents' 2018 Tax Return Filing Status:	
82. Parents Filed Schedule 1?	
83. Is Parent a Dislocated Worker?	
84. Parents' 2018 Adjusted Gross Income:	
85. Parents' 2018 U.S. Income Tax Paid:	
86. Parent 1 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) 2018 Income Earned from Work:	
87. Parent 2 (Father's/Mother's/Stepparent's) 2018 Income Earned from Work:	\$0
88. Parents' Total of Cash, Savings, and Checking Accounts:	
89. Parents' Net Worth of Current Investments:	
90. Parents' Net Worth of Businesses/Investment Farms:	
91a. Parents' Education Credits:	
91b. Parents' Child Support Paid:	
91c. Parents' Taxable Earnings from Need-Based Employment Programs:	
91d. Parents' College Grant and Scholarship Aid Reported to IRS as Income:	
91e. Parents' Taxable Combat Pay Reported in AGI:	
91f. Parents' Cooperative Education Earnings:	
92a. Parents' Payments to Tax-Deferred Pensions & Retirement Savings:	
92b. Parents' Deductible Payments to IRA/Keogh/Other:	
92c. Parents' Child Support Received:	
92d. Parents' Tax Exempt Interest Income:	
92e. Parents' Untaxed Portions of IRA Distributions and Pensions:	
92f. Parents' Housing, Food, & Living Allowances:	
92g. Parents' Veterans Noneducation Benefits:	
92h. Parents' Other Untaxed Income or Benefits:	
93. Student's Number of Family Members in 2020-2021:	
94. Student's Number in College in 2020-2021:	
95. Student Received Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income?	NO
96. Student Received SNAP?	NO
97. Student Received Free/Reduced Price Lunch?	NO
98. Student Received TANF?	NO
99. Student Received WIC?	NO
100. Is Student or Spouse a Dislocated Worker?	
101a. First Federal School Code:	003256
101b. First Housing Plans:	ON CAMPUS
101c. Second Federal School Code:	003371
101d. Second Housing Plans:	ON CAMPUS
101e. Third Federal School Code:	003273
101f. Third Housing Plans:	WITH PARENT
101g. Fourth Federal School Code:	003329
101h. Fourth Housing Plans:	ON CAMPUS
101i. Fifth Federal School Code:	003326
101j. Fifth Housing Plans:	ON CAMPUS
101k. Sixth Federal School Code:	002104
101l. Sixth Housing Plans:	ON CAMPUS
101m. Seventh Federal School Code:	003325
101n. Seventh Housing Plans:	ON CAMPUS
101o. Eighth Federal School Code:	003229
101p. Eighth Housing Plans:	ON CAMPUS
101q. Ninth Federal School Code:	003369
101r. Ninth Housing Plans:	ON CAMPUS
101s. Tenth Federal School Code:	
101t. Tenth Housing Plans:	
102. Date Completed:	10/01/2019
103. Signed By:	BOTH STUDENT AND PARENT
104. Preparer's Social Security Number:	
105. Preparer's Employer Identification Number (EIN):	
106. Preparer's Signature:	

Graduation/Retention/Transfer Rates

College Rates

The table shows the [graduation, retention, and transfer rates](#) for the schools you selected. Go to the [College Scorecard](#) Web site for complete information.

School Name	Graduation Rate	Retention Rate	Transfer Rate	Additional Information from <i>College Scorecard</i>
DREXEL UNIVERSITY	70%	89%	0%	N/A
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY	71%	90%	18%	N/A
HARRISBURG AREA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	11%	56%	21%	N/A
PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY (THE)	85%	93%	0%	N/A
SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY	54%	73%	33%	N/A
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY OF PA	61%	77%	25%	N/A
ALBRIGHT COLLEGE	54%	70%	0%	N/A
SUSQUEHANNA UNIVERSITY	72%	85%	0%	N/A

Your Financial Aid History Information

The information below is the total amount of student loans that you owe. These loans are administered by the U.S. Department of Education (ED). You should confirm that these loan totals are correct. You can view details on the individual loans that make up these totals at the [National Student Loan Data System \(NSLDS\)](#) Web site. If you feel that the amounts listed on this page are incorrect, or you have other questions related to a loan, you should contact the loan servicer indicated on the NSLDS Web site. You can obtain general information about each of the types of loans that are listed below by visiting our [StudentAid.gov](#) Web site.

Note that the "Subsidized" and "Unsubsidized" amounts include the appropriate portions of any Consolidation Loans you may have. If there is an amount listed for "Unallocated Consolidation Loans" it is because we could not determine whether those balances were subsidized or unsubsidized.

Remember you are responsible for repaying all of the amounts that you borrow, plus interest. As a general rule, with an assumed interest rate of 5%, the monthly payment amount over a ten-year repayment period would be approximately \$10.61 for every \$1,000 that you borrowed. Of course your actual repayment amount will depend upon how much you borrow, the interest rate when you enter repayment, and how long your repayment term is.

Total Amount of Loans Outstanding -			
FFEL (Bank Loans) and/or Direct Loans:	Total Principal Balance	Remaining Amount to be Disbursed	Total
Subsidized Loans:			
Unsubsidized Loans:			
Combined Loans:			
Unallocated Consolidation Loans:			
Federal Perkins Loan Amounts:			
Total Outstanding Principal Balance:			
2020-2021 Loan Amount:			
TEACH Grants Converted to Direct Loans:			
Unsubsidized Loans:			

At this point, the school(s) listed on your application have access to your information. The school(s) may put together or change an aid package based on your Expected Family Contribution and notify you.

The amount of aid you receive from a school will depend on the cost of attendance at that school, your enrollment status (full-time, three-quarter-time, half-time, or less than half-time), Congressional appropriations, and other factors. Review your financial aid notification from the school(s) or contact the Financial Aid Administrator at the school(s).

Note: Your school has the authority to request copies of certain financial documents to verify information you reported on your application.

To protect the confidentiality of your application data, you should never give, share, or disclose your FSA ID to anyone, including commercial service providers that provide assistance with the financial aid process. You should keep your FSA ID in a safe location.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1845-0001. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 to 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The obligation to respond to this collection is voluntary. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, please contact the Federal Student Aid Information Center, P.O. Box 84, Washington, D.C. 20044 directly.

We may request additional information from you to process your application more efficiently. We will collect this additional information only as needed and on a voluntary basis.

By answering questions 101a through 101t, and signing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, you give permission to the U.S. Department of Education to provide information from your application to the college(s) you entered. You also agree that such information is deemed to incorporate by reference the certification statement on the sign and submit page of the financial aid application. The certification statement can be viewed at [StudentAid.gov/2021/help/certification-statement](#).

WARNING: If you are convicted of drug distribution or possession for an offense that occurred while you were receiving Title IV aid, your eligibility for Title IV student financial aid is subject to suspension or termination. If your drug conviction status changes at any time during the 2020-2021 award year, you must update your answer to the drug conviction affecting eligibility question.

The serenity of her voice as she sang striking lyrics from her journal caused goosebumps to flood my skin. After repeating the words she had previously wrote, she added to her melody by pressing the tip of the pen to the paper. Her handwriting had a scribbled appearance, but it was still pretty and comprehensible Spanish. Although her forehead would wrinkle when she was concentrated, the delicacy echoing throughout the room could convince me that she was half her age.

As I watched my grandmother pursue her passion for writing, I began to understand why writing is such a significant component of my daily activities. Without it, I would not be able to discuss a personal statement that defines my personality. The idea of being able to express an opinion or inner thought on a piece of paper, without limits, brings me a sense of clarity. During my childhood years, my grandmother would constantly remind me why it is crucial to write at least once every day. One quote she would often tell me, "Writing is a form of expression that allows people who are usually silent, to speak." Knowing I was someone who grew up shy, she explained that writing was a method of using my voice without the eyes of others. I didn't understand her mechanism until she passed away. While experiencing moments of grief, I couldn't articulate my emotions to anyone without breaking down. I decided to put the pain and heartbreak into a vulnerable story that spoke the truth. Losing her led to one of my biggest downfalls that reflected in my academics, personal hobbies, and mentality. There were many nights where I would sit at my desk with my head buried in a textbook, repeating the same paragraph until I could comprehend it as tears rolled down my cheeks. Although it was half past midnight and the bags under my eyes were growing darker from exhaustion, I continued to push myself beyond my capabilities and test the remaining strength I had left. It wasn't until I was the one pressing the tip of my pencil onto my diary that I felt relief. I immediately felt less alone when writing and slowly, I was able to find inner peace within reality.

After years of suffering from depression, I've learned new coping mechanisms to deal with the constant war within myself. I am still very young but this form of art taught me how to display my identity in an honest manner. Although people can simply write a paper without having experience, there wouldn't be authenticity in expressing who they are as an individual. Through writing, I'm able to voice my emotions and understand my character. Similar to how writing has helped me, I want to help others in that same manner.

January 17th, 2020

Faith Elmes

Scholarship Coordinator

The Foundation for Enhancing Communities

G. Thomas Balsbaugh Memorial Fund Scholarship Application

Harrisburg, PA

Dear Faith Elmes:

As the scholarship application indicates, I am writing to you about extenuating circumstances that I feel this foundation should be aware. Recently, I lost my grandmother to cancer that took us all by surprise. It was very sudden, and quick, preventing my mother from continuing her position at her job. Due to this unfortunate circumstance, she did have to leave her job and we are currently financially unstable. My father is not involved in any part of my life, it is just my mother, nephew, and myself. As of right now, she is looking for employment and I am attempting to apply to as many scholarships as possible for college. Please don't hesitate to contact me at preciousmrivera@gmail.com or (717)-592-0010.

Thank you for your time in this matter and this scholarship opportunity.

Sincerely,

Precious Rivera

Precious Rivera

Student

Harrisburg High School SciTech Campus

Nanette Blank

2428 Green St
Harrisburg, PA 17110
nblank@hbgsd.us
717-201-8132

September 29, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I have had the pleasure of working with Precious Rivera for the last year. She was in my Keystone Biology preparation group and Honors Chemistry last year and is currently in the AP Environmental Science class. I have found her to have a strong work ethic, a generous personality, and a natural leader. SciTech is a blue ribbon STEM school in the Harrisburg School District that offers only classes at honors and higher levels. Precious works diligently in class uses all the resources provided and creates many of her own. While her grades in her freshman year suffered as she grieved the loss of her grandparent, she grew so much as a student that she was able to go on a volunteering trip to the Dominican Republic and maintain distinguished honors.

Her school record does not show the complete picture. From small thing offering encouragement or passing down her notecards after she passed the keystone to large endeavors like raising money for charity, Precious is helpful to everyone at school. Outside of school, she tutors and has homework help time for kids in her neighborhood. When she heard there was a climate strike in our town, she made posters and recruited her friends to go too. I am excited that she has agreed to be a science lab assistant in the fall because she is already grabbing, cleaning, and setting up in the few minutes that I see her in the morning. So while our school did not have clubs last year, she has invested that time to create her own spaces to make a difference in the community and lead.

I strongly recommend Precious Rivera because her strong work ethic, generous spirit, and leadership will benefit each community that she enters.

Warm regards,

Nanette Blank

Chemistry Teacher
SciTech Campus, Harrisburg School District
Masters' of Science in Education, Drexel University
Bachelors' of Science in Biology Education, Millersville University



HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT
Harrisburg High School – SciTech Campus
Dr. Siéta Achampong, Principal

September 25, 2019

Kevin P. Varano
Social Studies Instructor
SciTech High
215 Market St.
Harrisburg, PA 17101

To whom it may concern,

I have had the honor and privilege of knowing Precious Rivera at the Harrisburg High School - SciTech Campus during the past two years as a student in my General and AP Psychology classes and Dual Enrollment US History. She has exemplified maturity and surrounds herself with positive, uplifting people. She is an excellent mentor and role model for younger students. I have witnessed Precious transformation from a student who was able to work on assignments with a goal of completion into a true leader that is able to master content with a deeper purpose and meaning demonstrated by very few adults.

Precious achievements do not only exist in the academic realm, as she is a tireless volunteer who is an excellent fundraiser. She has been a participant in our local Latinx community charity and education programs where she is a mentor and student. Precious participated in a service learning trip to the Dominican Republic as a sophomore and has continued to excel as a community based agent of change.

This is normally where, as a recommender I pile on the platitudes of excellent classroom performance. Yes, Precious is able to compete with some of the best students I have taught in the last 16 years. She challenged herself with college coursework as a junior and continues with that track as a senior. She is seeking out further opportunities outside of school attending the PULSE program at the Pennsylvania State University Medical School which exposes students to medical based coursework to further that passion. However, when you meet Precious, you are taken aback with her shy and self-deprecating manner. Soon, however, you come to find that she has an engaging personality and a quick wit. Her infectious smile and pleasant personality make her a natural leader among her peers. Her dry sense of humor coupled with her uniquely sensitive nature make her a great communicator.

I am proud to have known and been a part of the development of this upstanding young woman. I know of few other high school students who compare with Ms. Rivera. If I can ever be of assistance, I may be reached at (717) 703-1900. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin P. Varano



Applicant's Name: _____

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

This page should be completed by your School Counselor.

General Student Information

High School Attended/Attending: _____

High School Address: _____
Street Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

H.S. Graduation Date: _____ Cumulative Class Rank: _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ Total H.S. Class Size: _____

Attendance Information

Current School Year: # of Days Absent: _____ # of Days Tardy: _____

Previous School Year: # of Days Absent: _____ # of Days Tardy: _____

Test Scores Information

SAT Reading: _____ Math: _____ Date: _____

Reading: _____ Math: _____ Date: _____

Reading: _____ Math: _____ Date: _____

ACT Composite: _____ Date: _____

Signature Information

The school related information provided above is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

High School Counselor Signature: _____ Date: _____

High School Counselor Printed Name: _____

High School Counselor Email Address: _____