
ASIAN EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AT THE PORT OF OAKLAND
Asian Employees Association (AEA) Scholarship Program

2018 Scholarship
DEADLINE TO APPLY **EXTENDED**: Friday, March 30, 2018

AEA Scholarship Program

In 1993, the Asian Employees Association at the Port of Oakland (AEA) established a scholarship program to encourage deserving high school students from the community to pursue post-secondary education. Over the years, the program has grown steadily and awarded more than **\$300,000** in scholarships. In the last two years, AEA has awarded a total of approximately \$20,000 in scholarships.

Requirements for Scholarship Applicants

1. High school senior of any ethnicity currently enrolled in a public, charter or private high school in **Oakland, or** a high school senior who is a child of a Port of Oakland employee
2. (*Children of Port of Oakland employees may apply even if they reside and attend a high school outside of Oakland*)
3. Minimum overall weighted GPA of 3.0 (B average)
4. Intends to pursue a bachelor's degree at a four year accredited university or college on a full-time basis

Submission Requirements

To apply for a scholarship award, the following must be submitted to the AEA Scholarship Committee for review:

1. Completed scholarship application form
2. Essay personally written by the applicant
3. If the essay submitted is irrelevant to the topic, the application will be disqualified.
4. Official transcript bearing the school's official seal from the applicant's school
5. A letter of recommendation from applicant's current high school instructor or counselor
6. Please note that the scholarship application form and essay may be emailed together to jibanez@portoakland.com
7. The official transcript and letter of recommendation(s) must be mailed or hand delivered separately; faxes or emails will not be accepted.

2018 Scholarship Essay Topics

Please respond to one of the following topics. Essays will be judged on **creativity** of responses and not necessarily on knowledge of the Port of Oakland:

The Port of Oakland oversees the Oakland seaport, Oakland International Airport, and 20 miles of waterfront including Jack London Square. Together with its business partners, the Port supports more than 73,000 jobs in the region. The Port of Oakland oversees the Oakland seaport, Oakland International Airport, and 20 miles of waterfront including Jack and nearly 827,000 jobs across the United States.

Option 1:

How has the Port of Oakland impacted you? Give pros or cons on how the Port has impacted your life and/or the lives of the community.

Option 2:

If you were the Executive Director of the Port of Oakland, what issue would be your top priority? Please be specific about the issue and explain why the issue is your top priority and steps you would take to resolve the issue.


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Essay Grading Criteria

Essays will be graded on the following:

- Originality, personal vision
- Grammar, spelling, and overall flow
- Relevance and responsiveness to essay question.

(Please note that the essay is a writing exercise. Essays that do not answer the question, ramble on, or contain non-relevant information will be disqualified at the sole discretion of AEA without notice.)

Scholarship Selection Criteria

The following will be considered when reviewing the applications:

- Essay quality
- Extracurricular activities, civic involvement, awards, work experience, special talent
- Applicant's potential for academic achievement
- Applicant's potential impact on the community, both immediate and long-term

The AEA Scholarship Committee will review the applications and invite a select number of applicants to a personal interview (tentatively scheduled for April 2018). The selected applicants will be notified one (1) week in advance of the time and place of their individual interview. Participation at the interview is **mandatory**.

The Scholarship awardees will be recognized at a scholarship awards and fundraiser banquet sponsored by AEA on Friday, May 18, 2018 from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm at Restaurant Peony in Oakland Chinatown. Participation of awardees is **mandatory**.



Due Date for Submission of Scholarship Application and Essay: Friday, March 30, 2018

By mail/email: Applications must be postmarked by Friday, March 30, 2018 or

In person: Deliver to the Port of Oakland offices by 5:00 pm on Friday, March 30, 2018

Port of Oakland
AEA Scholarship Committee
Attn: Janiz Ibañez
530 Water Street, 3rd Floor
Oakland, CA 94607


Email: jibanez@portoakland.com

PLEASE NOTE: The first tier award for the 2018 scholarship is \$3,000 and may be increased to \$5,000 depending on the number of applications received and availability of funds. Second, third, and fourth tier awards in lesser amounts will also be awarded. AEA reserves the sole right to determine the amount of the cash prizes, number of scholarships awarded, and recipients. All decisions are final.

Distributions of scholarship funds are made after the Committee receives the awardees' certificate of enrollment from the junior college or four-year post-secondary educational institution. Funds must be claimed between July 1, 2018 and April 30, 2019.

Funds not claimed by April 30, 2019 are subject to forfeiture. Failure to enroll into a four-year post-secondary educational institution between those two dates will also result in the forfeiture of your award.

For questions, please contact Janiz Ibañez at (510) 627-1556.


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The official transcript and letter of recommendation must be sent by mail or hand-delivered; faxes and e-mails will not be accepted.

About AEA

The Asian Employees Association (AEA) at the Port of Oakland is a non-profit organization founded by Port employees in 1991. Membership is open to anyone regardless of ethnic or cultural background.

The goals of AEA are to:

- Inspire and reward outstanding academic achievement among our Oakland high school students, as well as children of current Port of Oakland employees, through the AEA Scholarship Program.
- Promote mutual understanding and goodwill by organizing Asian cultural programs for all Port of Oakland employees and community members to enjoy.