# **2021 IAHF Scholarship Application Packet**

**Italian American Heritage Foundation**

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# **IAHF_LOGO_NEW-2011 Scholarships Available**

The Italian American Heritage Foundation (IAHF) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to offer scholarships funded through private donations to students moving on to institutions of higher learning. The IAHF is offering merit-based scholarships to high school graduates pursuing degrees at a two- or four-year institution; and to community college graduates moving on to a four-year institution. Scholarships are offered to matriculating students pursuing:

# Italian or foreign language studies (majors or minors),

# General studies, and

# Further education in Performing Arts and Fine Arts programs.

**Who is Eligible?**

1. Applicant must be of some Italian descent.
2. Applicant must be graduating this year (Class of 2021) from an accredited high school or an accredited California Community College in Santa Clara County.
3. Applicant who is an IAHF member or the child or grandchild of an IAHF member in good-standing for at least six (6) months is exempt from requirements 1 and 2 above.
4. Applicant is accepted to an accredited institution of higher learning.

Visit our website at <http://www.iahfsj.org> for information about the scholarship program.

**Application Packet**

All application materials must be typed or computer generated. Your packet can be submitted either by postal mail or email. Electronic submissions must include all application materials attached, preferably in one document or PDF. Emailed applications must still contain the required hand signature on the Applicant Personal Information form. Electronic or digital signatures will not be accepted. You will need to print, hand sign, and scan the signature page to successfully submit the entire packet by email. Complete the Applicant Personal Information form where you can enter your information directly on to the Word form.

**Applicant Personal Information**

(Please complete all sections)

Applicant Name (First, MI, Last): Click or tap here to enter text.

Address (City, ZIP): Click or tap here to enter text.

Phone:Click or tap here to enter text.

**2021 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE**

List high school currently attending: Click or tap here to enter text.

List name of accepting higher education institution Click or tap here to enter text.

**2021 COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRADUATE**

List community college currently attending: Click or tap here to enter text.

Degree and Pathway/Major Transfer achieved: Click or tap here to enter text.

List name of accepting four year institution: Click or tap here to enter text.

**GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)**

Grade Point Average (4.0 scale) Only Non-Weighted Cumulative GPA will be considered. Click or tap here to enter text..

Total Cumulative Non-Weighted GPA

Total Cumulative Weighted GPA

Is the applicant a child or grandchild of a *curren*t IAHF member? **Yes  No**

If you responded yes, provide the relative’s name and relation to applicant. Click or tap here to enter text..

What is the Italian Heritage (if any) of the applicant? Click or tap here to enter text.

Is the applicant a *curren*tIAHF member in good standing?  **Yes  No**

How many years has applicant been a member of the IAHF? Click or tap here to enter text.

Click or tap here to enter text.

Has the applicant participated in IAHF functions or volunteered at an event?

**Yes  No**

If Yes, list which function(s) or event(s)**?** Click or tap here to enter text.

How did you find out about the IAHF Scholarship?

School Counselor

Teacher

IAHF Newsletter

Family Member

Other: Click or tap here to enter text.

I agree that the IAHF has my permission to publish in part or in whole my essay and include my photo in the IAHF newsletter. Further, my signature confirms that all information submitted is accurate and complete.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Elements of the Packet**

This application includes the following components that need to be completed. Be sure to proofread everything before submitting and submit early to ensure arrival on time.

1. **Personal Information** – Complete each item on the personal information form, and make sure to sign your form.
2. **Essay** – Submit an essay of between 500 -1,000 words, double-spaced, with a minimum of three paragraphs. The essay will be evaluated on content, structure, and originality, as well as format and grammar. Each of the following should be addressed in your essay:
3. Describe your educational and career goals.
4. How has your heritage and culture defined, affected, and shaped you as a person?
5. What could you do to bring the Italian-American community together to be more active and encourage younger Italians to become more engaged in their heritage and culture?
6. Describe experiences, accomplishments, and/or challenges you encountered while pursuing your education.

As part of your essay, also include, if applicable, a short paragraph explaining any extenuating circumstances causing your application to merit special consideration (e.g., hardships).

Essay originality and authenticity is part of the scoring criteria. If the integrity of the essay is deemed unoriginal, reworked/reused, or demonstrates plagiarism, eligibility for scholarship consideration will be invalidated and cause automatic forfeiture.

1. **Official School Transcript, GPA** – Submit a transcript stamped with the official seal or it will not be accepted unless received directly from the school. Cumulative GPA will be reviewed. Total non-weighted Cumulative GPA will be scored.
2. **Student Photo** – Include a photo appropriate for IAHF publications and for use at the awards banquet.
3. **Non-Academic Activities** – On a separate sheet or document, list in chronological order any primary academic and non-academic honors, extra-curricular activities, (exclude mandatory school work), organizational affiliations and/or participation in community volunteer services, and/or employment experience. Examples may include:
   * *Academic/non-academic honors* (e.g., special talents, hobbies, any awards monetary/non-monetary, other scholarships, publications or special recognitions),
   * *Extra-curricular school activities* that demonstrate leadership skills, talents in performing arts, athletics, artistic abilities, and languages (e.g., student government, publications, school-sponsored community service programs, student-faculty committees, arts, music, sports), etc.
   * *Community volunteer experiences* (e.g., food or housing insecurity programs, environmental advocacy programs/events, national or local community agencies).
   * *Employment experience* (e.g., paid, unpaid, part-time/full-time, and internships).
   * *Cultural experience* (e.g., services for organizations which promote ancestry, heritage, or cultural activities).
4. **Letter of recommendation** – A letter prepared by an academic staff member or school counselor/advisor who can describe your character, talents, strengths, potential, initiative in pursuing your academic and career goals; how long and in what capacity they have known the applicant; and provide an overall rating for the applicant. Letters from family members will NOT be accepted.
5. **College Acceptance Letter** – A college acceptance letter from the college or university you will be attending should state that you have been admitted and offered a place in the incoming class.

**Application Submission**

Be sure you answer all questions completely, and provide all required information identified above. Submit your application to the IAHF office, via E-Mail or received by USPS, on or before **April 30**, **2021 by 4 pm**. Applications received after this deadline will be disqualified

Email: [scholarships@iahfsj.org](mailto:scholarships@iahfsj.org) or mail application via USPS to:

Italian American Heritage Foundation

IAHF Scholarship Committee

425 N. Fourth Street

San Jose, CA 95112

Phone: 408-293-7122

Application submission questions or issues can be directed by email to [scholarships@iahfsj.org](mailto:scholarships@iahfsj.org)

**Scholarship Notification**

Once the Scholarship Committee evaluates the scholarship submissions, applicants will be notified around **May 28, 2021** whether they are scholarship recipients.

**Award Ceremony**

Scholarship awardees are expected to attend the award ceremony, possibly virtual, on Saturday, **July 10, 2021.**

Scholarship recipients are encouraged to help promote the IAHF organization, scholarship program by volunteering at IAHF events, and becoming a young ambassador and leader for the scholarship program.

**Thank you!**