

Current holders of What If? Scholarships are eligible to apply for renewal if they are making progress toward their initial degree.

# What If? Scholarship

The What If? Education Fund was established in May 2009 to help student (Meals from the Heartland) volunteers further their post-secondary education.

Qualified applicants must have volunteered for Meals from the Heartland's (MftH) Student Challenge and be a student at one of the Meals from the Heartland Student Challenge participating schools.



What if *you found out you could change the world?*

**What is the What If? Scholarship?**

The What If? Education Fund was established in May 2009 to help student (Meals from the Heartland) volunteers further their post-secondary education.

**Eligibility**

Qualified applicants must have volunteered for Meals from the Heartland's Student Challenge and

- Be a student at one of the Meals from the Heartland Student Challenge participating schools
- Have raised at least \$50.00 for MftH's Student Challenge

**Scholarship Awards**

Scholarship awarded amounts range from \$300 - \$750.00.

What IF? Scholarship recipients can use their funds for any school-related expense including books, transportation and rent.

**Application Deadline**

Completed applications and all additional required documents must be postmarked no later than: February 1, 2012 to be eligible.

**Mail to:**

Meals from the Heartland  
What If? Scholarship  
7780 Office Plaza Dr., Suite 136  
West Des Moines, IA 50266

**Contact Person:**

Bruce Hansen  
1.877.HLP.MFTH

**Award Selection Process**

The What IF? Scholarship Committee will review and consider only complete applications which include all additional required documents (see application packet section).

All finalists will be interviewed by the What If? Committee members. Awards will be announced no later than April 1, 2012. Upon receipt of school registration verification, scholarship checks will be mailed to the award winners.

Applications are rated on the following criteria:

- ✓ Meals from the Heartland involvement
- ✓ Other community involvement
- ✓ Education and career goals
- ✓ Personal statement
- ✓ Transcript, letters of recommendation
- ✓ Interview with committee

**Application Packet Includes:**Application

Please complete all applicable sections of the application. Applications are available for download at [www.mealsfromtheheartland.org](http://www.mealsfromtheheartland.org) or can be picked up through Student Leaders.

Personal statement

Written statement explaining your educational and career goals, ties to Meals from the Heartland, and why you need assistance from the What If? Education Fund. This statement should be between one and three pages.

Transcripts

Please provide copies of your past year school transcripts.

Letters of recommendation

High school and college students must submit one letter of recommendation from a school staff member and one additional letter of recommendation from a non-relative.

**I. Personal Information**

Check only one of the following:

I am a high school senior (class of 2012) ( School - \_\_\_\_\_ )

I am a college student ( School - \_\_\_\_\_ )

I am a current recipient and reapplying

I am a former applicant reapplying

Check all appropriate boxes of the following:

I am currently or have been involved with the following

Meals from the Heartland

Hunger-related organizations

Extra-curricular activities community organizations

How did you hear about the Meals from the Heartland What If? Scholarship?

High School \_\_\_\_\_

Meals from the Heartland Web Site

Local newspaper \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**What If? Scholarship Application**

## II. Personal Information

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Meals from the Heartland / hunger related / community /extra-curricular activities. Use a separate sheet if necessary.

List program(s) or activities including month/year

Meals from the Heartland

Hunger related

Community

High School

Other

**What If? Scholarship Application**

### **III. Education Goals**

(Please type information or print legibly)

School you plan to attend:

\_\_\_\_\_

School address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Admissions Office telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual tuition: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been accepted to the school? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

% of Tuition you expect to fund on your own \_\_\_\_\_ %

What is your major field of study? \_\_\_\_\_

Length of program (years)? \_\_\_\_\_ Expected student status: \_\_Part-time \_\_Full-time

How many credits have you completed toward your degree? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your estimated graduation date (mo/yr)? \_\_\_\_\_

### **What If? Scholarship Application**

**IV. Work Experience (list most recent first)**

Employer

Start date

End date

# of average hrs/wk

Monthly income

Are you planning to work while attending school? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If applicable, please explain any other financial or budget information you think might be helpful in our decision.

**What If? Scholarship Application**

## **V. Additional Information**

List and explain school honors you have received and when (e.g. National Honor Society, Special Achievement Award).

List and explain school, community, or volunteer activities you have participated in.

## **VI. Personal Statement**

Your personal statement of one to three pages is the most important part of the application, as it gives the committee a chance to learn what is special about you. We particularly want to know how you got where you are today, your long term goals, and how education may help you achieve those goals. Are there any special circumstances that may make achieving your goals particularly difficult? What do you enjoy? What are your passions?

**VII. Signature**

I certify that the information given on these pages is factual and correct.

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Applicant signature / date

Parent or Guardian Permission (if applicant is a minor)

I certify that the information given on these pages is factual and correct. With my knowledge and approval, my child requests consideration for the What if? Scholarship.

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Parent/guardian signature / date

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Relationship to applicant

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A complete application includes submitting the additional required documents. Incomplete applications will NOT be submitted to the committee for consideration.

Additional Required materials checklist:

- . Application – must be complete
- . Personal statement
- . Transcripts
- . Letters of recommendation