NOTE: Eligible students must be legally blind, reside in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, or Will Counties, and be enrolled/accepted in an accredited degree program during the fall of 2020.

In addition to your completed application, you must submit the following:

1. Two letters of recommendation from past instructors or other academic professionals who can comment on your scholastic or other achievements. Repeat applicants need only submit one letter of recommendation.

2. An autobiographical essay, as described on the last page of the application. Past recipients must submit a summary of precisely how past scholarship money was spent.

3. Official transcripts of grades from most recent school or schools. Proof of your acceptance in an accredited educational institution is required.

4. A recent eye report (no older than 2 years), certifying legal blindness.

5. A valid state identification.
The deadline for submission of completed applications is April 1, 2020.

- Interviews with all qualified applicants are required and will be scheduled for May 2019.
- Scholarship applicants will be informed of whether they have been awarded or not awarded a scholarship in the weeks following the completed interviews.
- Announcement of scholarship awards will be made at Blind Service Association's Annual Meeting in June. Awardees are expected to attend and scholarship awards will be presented at this time. Winners must sign for their scholarship in person.
- BSA awards individual scholarships up to $3,000.
- All decisions of the BSA scholarship committee are final.

If you have any questions at all, please reach out to Dustin Cather at dcather@blindserviceassociation.org or by phone at 312-236-0808.
Scholarship application – 2020

1. Personal data

Name______________________________________________________________

Address________________________________________________________________________

City _______________________________ State ____ Zip ______

Phone: Home_________________________ Cell ______________

Email________________________________________________________________________

Date of birth ___________________________

Prefix Mr. ___ Ms. ___ Mrs. ___ Dr. ___

2. School you plan to attend in fall of 2020

Name______________________________________________________________

Address________________________________________________________________________

City _______________________________ State _____ Zip ______

Have you been admitted to this institution?  ___Yes  ___No

If no when do you expect to be accepted?

__________________________________________
Expected major/area of concentration
__________________________________________

Full time ___ part time ___

Degree /certificate sought
__________________________________________

Date degree expected: month _______________ year _______

3. Educational Background (complete only items which apply)

List two schools most recently attended, school presently attended as "A": Recent high school graduates need only to list their current school.

A - Name of School
__________________________________________________

Address____________________________________________

City _____________________________ state ______ zip ______

Major/area of concentration
__________________________________________

Full time ____ Part time ____

Cumulative GPA: on 4.0 scale ______; on 5.0 scale ______

Degree/certificate awarded
__________________________________________________
Scholarships, academic honors, awards, citations, etc. received. Cite date and reason for each.

B - Name of school

Address

City _________________________ state _______ zip ________

Major/area of concentration

Full time _____ Part time ______

Cumulative GPA: on 4.0 scale ______; on 5.0 scale ______

Degree/certificate awarded

Scholarships, academic honors, awards, citations, etc. received. Cite date and reason for each.

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________
4. Extracurricular activities

Briefly describe school, community, volunteer or religious activities in which you are or have been involved.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. Employment experience

Are you working at this time? __________

Part time _____ full time _____

Where, and in what capacity?
________________________________________________________________________

What work experience have you had in the last five years?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
6. Costs
What are your anticipated costs (tuition, fees, room, board, etc) per semester/quarter?

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

What funding sources have you explored?
How much support do you anticipate?

DHS __________
Loans __________
Family __________
Employment __________
Awards/ Scholarships __________
Other __________

7. New Applicants must include a brief autobiographical essay.
No more than two double spaced, typed pages - about your achievements, goals and aspirations. You may include anything you feel the committee ought to know about you.

8. Past BSA scholarship recipients: In place of an autobiographical essay, please submit a summary of the past academic year, including an accounting of how past year’s scholarship money was spent.
9. How did you hear about the BSA scholarship program?
________________________________________________________

10. Have you received a BSA scholarship in the past? If so, please indicate year and amount.
    Year ________ Amount ______________
    Year ________ Amount ______________
    Year ________ Amount ______________

You, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the information set forth in this application is true and correct.

Signature_________________________________________Date____________________

*SEND ALL MATERIALS TOGETHER TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS FOR BSA.