Project One 2024 Eligibility Requirements and Application Checklist

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Project One provides comprehensive mentoring, programs, and scholarships to help motivated students from under-resourced, single-parent/guardian families successfully navigate their journey to earning a four-year college degree.

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Project One applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be a graduating senior at a Mecklenburg County high school.
- Be in good academic standing with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent).
- Plan to attend a four-year North Carolina public university.
- Reside in a single parent/guardian household where the guardian's annual income does not exceed the 200% threshold of the poverty rate (3rd column in the *HHS Poverty Guidelines* table), based on family size.

2024 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Household Size	HHS Guideline	200% Multiplier
1	$15,060	$30,120
2	$20,440	$40,880
3	$25,820	$51,640
4	$31,200	$62,400
5	$36,580	$73,160
6	$41,960	$83,920
7	$47,340	$94,680
8	$52,720	$105,440

For families/households with more than 8 persons, add $5,380 for each additional person.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND CHECKLIST

> **There are 2 online applications:**
> - **One for the Scholar to fill out**
> - **One for the Parent/Guardian to fill out with financial information**
>
> **PLEASE NOTE: The Project One application cannot be saved and completed at a later date. Scholars and parents/guardians are encouraged to gather all items and pre-write essays before beginning the online application process.**

Scholars must submit the following items:

- ☐ 2024 Project One Scholarship Application Form online.
- ☐ An official high school transcript.
- ☐ Two personal statements. 1-2 pages in length, on the following topics:
  - ☐ Your educational and career goals and how you plan to achieve them. Include your plans for financing your college education.
  - ☐ How growing up in a single-parent household influenced your school and life experience and shaped who you are today.
    Note: You'll copy and paste your statements in the online application.
- ☐ Three recommendation letters: two from any high school faculty or staff member and one from an unrelated community member, such as a mentor, supervisor, coach, clergy, neighbor, etc. Recommenders should write about how the applicant demonstrates initiative, integrity, resilience, and/or commitment to service on a daily basis.
    Note: You'll upload these to the online application. Information is provided if you or your recommender prefer to submit them via email.
- ☐ A copy of applicant's Financial Aid Award Letter. Applicant may submit a copy of the completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or Student Aid Report (SAR) to

complete the initial scholarship application; however, selection is contingent upon receipt of the Financial Aid Award Letter from the college the applicant plans to attend.
Note: You'll upload these to the online application

☐ **Submit completed application online by <u>11:59 pm on March 31st, 2024</u>**

Parent/Guardian must submit the following items:

☐ Parent/Guardian application online.

☐ The past <u>three years</u> of parent/guardian's income tax returns (i.e., IRS Form 1040). The first two pages of each return, showing filing status and gross income, are required.
Note: You'll upload these to the online application.

☐ **Submit completed application online by <u>11:59 pm on March 31st, 2024</u>**

SELECTION PROCESS
The Project One Selection Committee thoroughly reviews all applications that are received. Committee members read, discuss, and rate applications using a holistic evaluation process that considers candidates' accomplishments, as well as their demonstrated potential for college success. Evaluation criteria include academic achievements, leadership, character, and community service. Scholarship Finalists are invited to in-person interviews with the Selection Committee, which are conducted in early May. Scholarship recipients are announced in late Spring/Early Summer.

If you experience technical difficulties, or have any questions about the application or application process, please email info@projectonescholars.org or call/text our Executive Director, CaraLee Murphy, at 980-985-0176.

Visit us online at www.projectonescholars.org