



Gulf Coast Down Syndrome Society's (GCDSS) Family Education Scholarship Program

Enrollment Period: January 1 – March 15 of Each Calendar Year

Notification of Awards: No Later Than April 15

No applications accepted after March 15th

The purpose of the Gulf Coast Down Syndrome Society's Family Education Scholarship Program is to offer financial assistance to parents or guardians of individuals with Down syndrome who want to attend a conference or other learning opportunity related to Down syndrome. GCDSS encourages you to apply for the scholarship if you are thinking about attending an event during the calendar year. The award will not be distributed until you actually register. We can not accept applications after the March 15 deadline, so if you are considering attending a conference or some other learning opportunity, please apply to be prepared.

Eligibility Criteria

- Be the parent or guardian of an individual with Down syndrome
- Live in the Gulf Coast Down Syndrome Society's service area, **and**
- Show their intentions to attend a conference or other learning opportunity related to Down syndrome

Scholarships

- A minimum of \$1,000 will be awarded annually, and will be divided equally among all eligible applicants.
- The awarded funds may be used to pay for the registration, transportation, hotel accommodations and/or other related supplies.
- In order for the funds to be disbursed, proper documentation (e.g. receipts, bills) will need to be submitted.

Award and Distribution of Funds

- Recipients will be notified in writing if you are eligible for the scholarship. We will notify you of the amount of the scholarship at that time. With proper documentation, GCDSS can either send funds to the conference organizer or can reimburse you for costs you paid out of pocket. You must submit bills and/or receipts that you are requesting to be funded by GCDSS or reimbursed for. GCDSS will not be responsible for any expenses exceeding the amount of the scholarship awarded.

How to Apply

All applications for the Gulf Coast Down Syndrome Society's Family Education Scholarship **must be postmarked and mailed to GCDSS, P.O. Box 654, Gautier, MS 39553, or emailed to info@gcdss.org, with "Scholarship Application" in the subject line by March 15th of the enrollment period to be considered. **No applicataions will be accepted after the March 15 deadline.****

Should you have questions on completing the application, please e-mail info@gcdss.org and we will be glad to help you.

Sincerely,
Gulf Coast Down Syndrome Society (GCDSS)

APPLICATION

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Name of Applicant: _____

Name of Individual with Down syndrome: _____

Relationship to: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

eMail: _____

Describe the conference or learning opportunity for which you are seeking scholarship funds. If available, attach documents describing the program and/or registration brochure. Please use additional Pages if necessary.

Provide the total cost of the conference or learning opportunity for which you are seeking funding. Please attach documentation of the costs.

Please briefly explain why you want to attend and/or what benefit you hope to get out of attending the conference:

I understand that if I am awarded this scholarship, I am agreeing to attend the conference or educational event, and that I will need to provide documentation as to how and where the funds will be spent. I also understand that GCDSS will not be responsible for any expenses exceeding the amount of scholarship awarded.

*Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

* If you are submitting this form electronically, typing your name in both spaces above is your agreement to the statement and is binding like your handwritten signature.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED OR POST MARKED NO LATER THAN MARCH 15TH