



Welcome to the 2019 CITGO Distinguished Scholars Program!

CITGO Petroleum Corporation announces the 2019 Distinguished Scholars Program to assist students who plan to continue their education in a two or four-year university. Up to forty (40) scholarships in the amount of **\$5,000** will be awarded to select graduates of the class of 2020 from Alief, Houston and Spring Branch Independent School Districts (ISD). Scholarships will be awarded in the following categories: Beating the Odds, Career and Technical Education, Communications, Performing and Fine Arts, STEM, Service and Leadership, Spirit and Student Athletics.

Eligibility Information and Requirements

Students:

1. Must be classified as a junior in Alief, Houston or Spring Branch ISD in the 2018-2019 school- year.
2. Should plan to enroll in a 2 or 4-year accredited university
3. Should have a high school grade point average of 2.50 or higher on a 4.0 scale
4. Provide an official or unofficial transcript with GPA & Rank; as well as a copy of PSAT/SAT or ACT scores if available (exam scores can be sent as a print out from a student's CollegeBoard or ACT account)
5. Must attend an awards ceremony in spring of 2020
6. Must sign a photo release and be willing to participate in filming of a student profile that may be shown publicly
7. May not be dependent children of employees or retired employees of CITGO Petroleum Corporation or its subsidiaries or ABC13
8. Submit application and all supporting information by **March 6, 2019**

Categories (Please check one category you wish to be considered for)

Beating the Odds

This category is for a student who has achieved his or her personal best while overcoming obstacles and challenges. The student has shown grit and perseverance in reaching a personal, career or academic goal.

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

This category is for a student who has a clear education and career pathway in place and successfully completed CTE courses. Students in this category may have already earned certifications in his/her field.



Communications

This category is for a student who excels in any area of the communications field, including journalism, speech and debate, social media, multi-media, yearbook, photography and photojournalism.

Performing and Fine Arts

This category is for a student who shines in any of the visual or performing arts such as band, color guard, choir, theater, orchestra, dance, drawing, painting, mixed media, Comedy Sportz, 3D animation and graphic design.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math)

This category is for a student who is a high achiever in STEM classes and/or clubs and teams such as robotics and engineering design challenges.

Service and/or Leadership

This category is for a student who is a leader at school and an example to others with their participation in service in the community and on campus. Students set positive examples for others and have the personal fortitude and integrity to do what is right even when in the minority.

Spirit

This category is for a student who is a positive influence on others and keeps school spirit alive and well, in and out of school. Students in this category build a cohesive community and a culture of belonging.

Student Athlete

This category is for a student who is an example to others with their equal dedication to work in the classroom and their dedication and work in athletics. Students in this category are leaders in good sportsmanship and bring their teammates together on and off the field.



Deadlines and Awards

CITGO will award up to forty (40) scholarships in the amount of \$5,000. Scholarship monies will be managed through the students' school district or school district's foundation. Scholarship funds will only be paid if the scholarship recipient is enrolled in an accredited 2- or 4-year college or university for the 2020 fall semester.

February 6, 2019 through March 6, 2019	Application open
March 6, 2019	Applications due. No late applications accepted
March 6, 2019 through May 6, 2019	Applicant review
May 2019	Applicants notified
September – October 2019	Scholarship winners interviewed and filmed
May 2020	Award Ceremony
Summer 2020	Scholarship Payments

Application

Interested students must complete the application along with a current, complete transcript (official or unofficial) of grades with GPA and Rank and copy of PSAT/SAT/ACT scores if applicable (exam scores can be sent as a print out from a student's CollegeBoard or ACT account). Applicants are responsible for gathering and submitting all necessary information. Applications are evaluated on the information supplied; therefore, answer all questions as completely as possible. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.

Selection of Recipients

Scholarship recipients are selected on the criteria in each category by an independent panel of community members. Decisions will be based on merit, qualifications, and abilities, and the selection panel will not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age or other protected class. Decisions of the panel are final.