



I.D.T.A.N.A. 2016 CYRIL MCNIFF MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Irish Dance Teacher's Association of North American is proud of the accomplishments of all dancers not only competitively and artistically, but also academically. To recognize the accomplishments of dancers who excel in the classroom and in the dance studio, the IDTANA is proud to offer academic scholarships:

- (a) for high school seniors graduating in Spring, 2016 and planning to attend a four-year undergraduate college or university, and
- (b) for students enrolled in a four-year undergraduate college program who will still be enrolled as an undergraduate in a four-year undergraduate college or university during the 15-16 school year.

Winners will be announced in Spring 2016 with scholarships to be presented at the 2016 North American Championships in July 2016. **The deadline to submit initial applications is December 19, 2015.**

Initial Application Form *(all information, including signatures, is required)* **(PLEASE TYPE/PRINT ALL RESPONSES)**

CHECK ONE:

_____ I am a full-time undergraduate college student at _____ .

_____ I am a high school senior graduating in Spring 2016 and entering a four-year undergraduate college in Fall 2016.

NAME (print full name, first and last, no nicknames)

HOME ADDRESS (provide house number, street name, town/city, state/province, and zip code/postal code)

HOME PHONE (with area code)

CELL PHONE (for you and/or your parents; with area code)

E-MAIL ADDRESS (for you and/or your parents)

IRISH DANCE SCHOOL (Print the name and location of your dance school, as well as the TCRG(s) who instructs that school)

NUMBER OF YEARS AS AN IRISH DANCER/CURRENT COMPETITIVE LEVEL

MY SIGNATURE

- I understand that I must submit a complete initial application to be considered at the initial phase.
- ***I understand and agree to abide by all rules governing scholarship applications, including the fact that any application received late or sent by a prohibited method will not be considered.***
- I understand that a percentage of the total number of initial applicants will be advanced to the second phase of consideration based upon evaluation of the initial phase applications. I also understand that not all second phase applicants will be awarded scholarships.
- **I agree to accept all decisions of the IDTANA scholarship committee and its agents as final.**

Signature

Date

MY PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE

- I/we understand that our child must submit a complete initial application to be considered at the initial phase.
- ***I understand and agree to abide by all rules governing scholarship applications, including the fact that any application received late or sent by a prohibited method will not be considered.***
- I/we understand that a percentage of the total number of initial applicants will be advanced to the second phase of consideration based upon evaluation of the initial phase applications. I/we also understand that not all second phase applicants will be awarded scholarships.
- My/our child has permission to apply for this scholarship program.
- **I/we agree to accept all decisions of the IDTANA scholarship committee and its agents as final.**

Signature

Date

MY DANCE TEACHER'S SIGNATURE

- I/we understand that this dancer must submit a complete initial application to be considered at the initial phase.
- ***I understand and agree to abide by all rules governing scholarship applications, including the fact that any application received late or sent by a prohibited method will not be considered.***
- I/we understand that a percentage of the total number of initial applicants will be advanced to the second phase of consideration based upon evaluation of the initial phase applications. I/we also understand that not all second phase applicants will be awarded scholarships.
- This dancer is enrolled in and actively participating in my/our dance class currently. I/we am/are currently registered with CLRG, IDTANA, and my/our IDTANA region.
- **I/we agree to accept all decisions of the IDTANA scholarship committee and its agents as final.**

Signature

Date

IDTANA Scholarship Program 2016

- The process for submitting an application for consideration for an IDTANA Scholarship 2016 is outlined on the following pages.
- Please read carefully ALL of the information on these pages and follow ALL steps as outlined below.
- DO NOT use forms or information from previous years.
- You should print out the blank pages of the application and complete them, after which you can then include them with the other required items in the PDF file that you must submit.
- PLEASE NOTE: Read and follow specific directions about submitting applications and supporting materials in electronic format only.

Initial Application Procedures:

For students currently enrolled as seniors in high school (2015-2016 school year), who will graduate from high school in Spring 2016 and who will attend a four-year college/university in Fall 2016

1. Complete the two-page INITIAL APPLICATION FORM, providing all information requested. This form must be signed by the dancer, his/her parent(s)/guardian(s), and his/her dance teacher (must be a TCRG/ADCRG/TMRF registered with CLRG, IDTANA, and a North American region).
2. Provide a **copy of your transcript** showing final grades for all high school courses completed through the end of the 2014-2015 school year. **At this level of application, you may use an “unofficial” copy of the transcript you have already received; official copies will, of course, be accepted as well.**
3. Provide a complete list of all courses for which you are enrolled for the 15-16 school year, indicating the semester when you will be taking each course if you are in a semesterized program.
4. Obtain a copy of your most recent SAT and/or ACT scores, if these are not shown on your transcript; you may include scores from previous SAT and/or ACT administrations but these are not required. **If SAT/ACT scores reports appear on the transcript, DO NOT send extra copies in addition.** [*Canadian applicants: submit any standardized testing that you have completed or a statement that such testing is not a part of your academic program.*]
5. Provide a list of extracurricular, volunteer, and service experiences; a list of paid work experiences; and, a list of Irish dance experiences (competitive and non-competitive). **[See attached sheet with complete descriptions and requirements for each list.]**
6. Provide a current valid e-mail address, which the committee will use to provide written notification of the results of the initial evaluation phase. No other form of notification will be used.
7. Submit the INITIAL APPLICATION FORM, your transcript, your SAT and/or ACT score report(s), a list of extracurricular, volunteer, and service experiences, a list of paid work experiences, and a list of Irish dance experiences (competitive and non-competitive) no later than December 19, 2015.
8. E-mail all required materials **in a SINGLE pdf file** to: idtanascholarship@gmail.com

For students currently enrolled in a four –year undergraduate college or university (and who will continue to be full-time undergraduate students during the 2016-2017 school year)

1. Any dancer who has previously been awarded an IDTANA Scholarship in any year is NOT eligible to re-apply for the scholarship program.

2. Complete the two-page INITIAL APPLICATION FORM, providing all information requested. This form must be signed by the dancer, his/her parent(s)/guardian(s), and his/her dance teacher (must be a registered TCRG/ADCRG/TMRF registered with CLRG, IDTANA, and a North American region).
3. If you are enrolled in your first year at the four-year college (freshman), request of your high school a transcript showing final grades for all courses completed during high school, as well as SAT and/or ACT score reports. [*Canadian applicants: submit any standardized testing that you completed or a statement that such testing was not a part of your academic program.*] **Also, submit a list of all college-level courses in which you are enrolled for the current school year (for all semesters or other yearly groupings).**
4. If you are enrolled in your second or third year of a four-year college (sophomore-junior), request an **official** copy of your college/university transcript for all courses that have been completed by the time that you submit your initial application form. **Also, submit a list of all college-level courses in which you are enrolled for the current school year (for all semesters or other yearly groupings).**
5. Provide a list of extracurricular, volunteer, and service experiences; a list of paid work experiences; and, a list of Irish dance experiences (competitive and non-competitive).
[See attached sheet with complete descriptions and requirements for each list.]
6. Provide a current valid e-mail address, which the committee will use to provide written notification of the results of the initial evaluation phase. No other form of notification will be used.
7. Submit the INITIAL APPLICATION FORM, your high school transcript (if required), your SAT and/or ACT score report(s), your college/university transcript (if required), the list of courses for which you are enrolled during the current school year, a list of extracurricular, volunteer, and service experiences, a list of paid work experiences, and a list of Irish dance experiences (competitive and non-competitive) no later than December 19, 2015.
8. E-mail all required materials **in a SINGLE pdf file** to: idtanascholarship@gmail.com

IMPORTANT information for all initial applicants:

1. Any initial application materials **RECEIVED/dated** later than the deadline date (December 19, 2015) will NOT be considered and will be returned to the sender, NO EXCEPTIONS.
2. Any applications or supporting materials **RECEIVED/dated** later than December 19, 2015, will be NOT be accepted and will be returned to the sender, NO EXCEPTIONS.
3. If your school has a policy requiring that they send the transcript directly (and not give it to you to send along with your initial application form), it is YOUR responsibility to ensure that the transcript arrives prior to the deadline, NO EXCEPTIONS. All transcripts must be sent to the e-mail address provided only (see e-mail address above).
4. Verification that materials have been received will ONLY be provided by e-mail if such verification is requested in an e-mail separate from the actual submission of the application and supporting materials.
5. Any applications or supporting materials that are not sent via e-mail will not be accepted. There are NO EXCEPTIONS.
6. All application materials should be submitted in a SINGLE pdf file, NOT In separate files for each page of the application. If you cannot create a multi-page pdf at home or school, please take your documents to a local business such as FedEx, where they can create such a SINGLE pdf file for you.
7. If an application, upon receipt, is missing any required item(s), the application will be excluded from consideration. No further contacts will be made with the applicant.

Initial Application Evaluation:

1. All complete applications received with all required supporting materials by the deadline will be evaluated by members of the IDTANA Scholarship Committee and by education professionals, including individuals who are not associated with the IDTANA.
2. Part of the initial evaluation will focus on the academic transcripts and test scores. The evaluators will use a rubric to evaluate each transcript in terms of academic rigor, final grades, grade point averages (GPA), and overall strength of academic history and preparation. Individual transcripts will not be compared to other transcripts for purposes of this initial evaluation but will be evaluated independently in terms of the rubric only.
3. The other focus of the initial evaluation will be the range of activities, volunteer/paid work experience, leadership roles, commitment to the school and community, and the Irish dance history that are detailed on the required lists provide by each applicant.
4. Once all initial evaluations have been completed and a rubric score is determined for each applicant, a percentage of initial applicants will be selected to move forward (on the basis of the rubric score earned on the initial evaluation) to the second phase of application and evaluation. The minimum number of applicants who will be moved forward to the second phase of application and evaluation will be 20% of the total number of applications submitted initially; however, the committee reserves the right to increase the number moved forward to a higher percentage based upon the quality of the initial applications and the initial evaluation rubric scores awarded.
5. All initial applicants will be notified in writing **by e-mail** of the decision reached at the initial evaluation phase, whether they are to be advanced to the second phase of evaluation or not.

Second Phase Application Procedures:

1. All initial applicants who are moved forward to the second phase of application and evaluation will receive written notification that they have been moved forward.
2. Included will be a complete set of directions about additional materials to be submitted as part of the second phase of application and evaluation, including, but not limited to: written responses to several writing prompts; and, a letter of support from your Irish dance teacher.
3. All materials required for the second phase of application and evaluation will be due by an established deadline. Any materials received after that deadline will not be considered and the application will not be moved forward to the scholarship committee for evaluation or consideration.
4. All complete second-phase applications (received by the stated deadline with all required supporting materials included) will be forwarded to members of the IDTANA scholarship committee. They will evaluate and score each complete application (including all of its component parts) according to a scoring rubric. The composite scores of the committee will then be used to rank order all second phase applications.
5. Second phase applications will be evaluated in two groups: (a) those submitted by students who are seniors in high school, graduating from high school in Spring 2015, and attending a four-year college program during the 2015-2016 school year; and (b) those already enrolled in a four-year college program who will still be enrolled in an undergraduate college/university program for the 2015-2016 school year.
6. Based upon this rank order list in each of the two groups of applications, all decisions about scholarship to be awarded will be made. The exact number of scholarships awarded, and the amount of each, will be determined by the committee.
7. **Not all applications advanced to the second phase evaluation will be awarded scholarships.**
8. All second-phase applicants will be notified in writing **by e-mail** of the decision reached at the second evaluation phase, whether they are to be awarded a scholarship or not.
9. All applicants who are selected to receive a scholarship will receive additional information about the date and location of the official presentation of awards, as well as other important details regarding media announcements, etc.

IMPORTANT:

ALL Applicants, whether applying for the high school or the college scholarships, must include the following items in their initial application for the 2016 Scholarship program.

1. Complete the **two-page IDENTIFICATION FORM/ CHECK LIST**, providing all information requested (including all signatures).
2. Provide a **current list of your involvement and accomplishments in Irish dancing**, including competitive level, major competitions/awards, etc., as well as non-competitive experiences. **This list must be typed and may not be any longer than one page (front only); font size may be no smaller than 10.**
3. Provide a **list of your extracurricular activities during high school/college**, including any positions of leadership held. Be very specific in describing/detailing leadership roles and responsibilities. This may include activities that are sponsored by your academic school, as well as those sponsored by churches or community organizations. **This list must be typed and may not be any longer than two pages (front only); font size may be no smaller than 10.**
4. Provide a **list/description of any volunteer or service work, as well as any paid work**, in which you have been involved during high school/college. **This list must be typed and may not be any longer than one page (front only); font size may be no smaller than 10.**

IMPORTANT information for all initial phase applicants:

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 1. The official application pages, and all initial phase supporting materials, must be submitted electronically in a SINGLE pdf file as described below. No other formats will be accepted.**
2. Any initial phase application materials **received/dated** electronically later than the deadline date (December 19, 2015) will not be considered, NO EXCEPTIONS.
3. As you prepare to submit your required initial phase materials electronically, you should put all materials in proper order and then create a SINGLE pdf file of the group of documents. Send the pdf file as an e-mail attachment to the e-mail address provided below.
- 4. In the subject line of your e-mail, please type ONLY:**
The last name of the scholarship applicant, the first name of the applicant, 2016.
5. Supporting materials should be included with your total application when you submit it electronically. If your supporting materials must be sent apart from your actual application materials, the person sending the materials is responsible for making sure that it arrives on or before the deadline (December 19, 2015). All mailings must be sent to the e-mail address provided below. **DO NOT SEND MATERIALS TO ANY OTHER E-MAIL ADDRESS OR IN ANY OTHER FORMAT.**

E-mail all required initial phase application materials, **in a SINGLE PDF file only**, to: Russell J. Beaton, SDCRG, Chairperson, IDTANA Scholarship Committee at the following e-mail address only: idtanascholarship@gmail.com

6. There will be no extensions of deadlines if the committee must notify an applicant that any e-mailed materials have been received in a format that cannot be opened and downloaded by the scholarship committee using its available computer software.

Important Message From the Chairperson of the IDTANA Scholarship Committee

Every year, parents and dancers contact me asking for exceptions to the application rules explained in these pages. Most of the time, these requests result because the individuals are attempting to send the applications at the last minute and are asking to be allowed to send things late or by some method other than what is described in the rules. **To be fair and equitable to everyone, I cannot grant these requests for special consideration.** If dancers and their parents complete the paper work and send it according to the rules and directions provide on these pages, there is no need for special requests. Please be considerate and submit applications according to the rules clearly explained in these pages, in order for items to reach me by the deadline. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

RUSSELL J. BEATON, SDCRG