

American Secondary School Scholarship Competition
Information for Candidates and Families in South Africa
For the Academic Year 2012/13

Important Dates

Application Deadline Friday, December 16, 2011
Interview Day TBA • January 2012

Application Process

Please read *Application Overview* for a complete understanding of how to apply for an ASSIST scholarship.

Please complete all application materials, make a full copy of all documents, and mail the original and a copy to reach the address noted below – *applications should not be sent to our offices in the United States*. **Applications must be post marked by Friday, December 16, 2011**, and those post marked after this date will not be considered.

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Interviews

After reading the applications, the competition committee will review the credentials of all candidates. Each candidate will be notified by e-mail if he or she has been offered an interview. Interviews will be held in January 2012 in Johannesburg. Decisions are released to all candidates by the middle of February.

Family Responsibilities

Each successful candidate will be offered a full scholarship at an independent school. The scholarship is meant to cover tuition, room and board at a boarding school or tuition and a volunteer host family at a day school. Tuitions at member boarding schools range up to US \$50,500 this year.

Through the generosity of committed donors, funds have also been secured to cover most of the costs of the overseas flight, health insurance and spending money. The intention of our program is that talented students, regardless of their family's income, can apply to become exchange students.

In South Africa, families are asked to complete a one-page financial aid form that assesses how much each family can fairly contribute from their resources. We anticipate asking each family to pay between US \$1,000 and \$6,000 toward the cost of funding the exchange year of their son or daughter. This money helps to underwrite the expenses noted above, an orientation upon arrival in the U.S., and ongoing support from ASSIST throughout the year. Families must also pay expenses associated with the interview process, visa application, and any expenses incurred in excess of the allowance provided. In extreme circumstances, all or part of the family fee may be waived.