





2021

Scholarship Application

**BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION**

Please type or PRINT as legibly as possible (we can't contact you if we can't read your handwriting).

Legal First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Legal Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Permanent E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_Female \_\_\_\_\_Male \_\_\_\_\_Transgender \_\_\_\_\_(self-define)

Pronouns: \_\_\_\_\_She/Her \_\_\_\_\_He/Him \_\_\_\_\_They/Them \_\_\_\_\_(self-define)

Orientation: \_\_\_\_\_Lesbian or Gay  
\_\_\_\_\_Bisexual  
\_\_\_\_\_Ally  
\_\_\_\_\_Child of a Lesbian or Gay Parent  
\_\_\_\_\_Child of a Bisexual Parent  
\_\_\_\_\_Child of a Transgender Parent  
\_\_\_\_\_ (self-define)

This application is for: \_\_\_\_\_Acorn Scholarship  
(Academics, Volunteerism, and Advocacy)  
\_\_\_\_\_Central Illinois Friends  
(Academics, Public Health)  
\_\_\_\_\_Luke Scholarship  
(Academics and Financial Need)  
\_\_\_\_\_McKeon Scholarship  
(Academics, Volunteerism, and Political Advocacy)  
\_\_\_\_\_Korty & Morton Scholarship  
(Advocacy, Volunteerism, and Financial Need)  
\_\_\_\_\_Weber-Tucker Scholarship  
(Academics and Social (or Family) Hardship)







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## REFERENCES

Please, select three references to provide letters of recommendation for you. References may be people who can testify to your academic success, your financial need, your commitment to community service, or even your personal virtues and qualities. Please enclose each of the three letters of reference with your application materials. **The reference MUST seal their letter in an envelope and sign their name across the flap of the envelope.** Your name needs to be on the FRONT of the envelope. Any letters of reference not sealed in a separate envelope with a signature across the envelope flap will not be considered with the application.

### Reference One

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

### Reference Two

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

### Reference Three

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

### ESSAY QUESTIONS

This page includes the essay questions which must be completed and returned with your application. Each response should be typed or word processed on a separate sheet of paper and attached to your application materials. In the packet you return, you will have two (2) essays. Please label each essay, for example, one will be labeled Luke Scholarship and the other About Me.

*Please note: If you are a past scholarship winner, and are applying again, you must submit new essays. If you submit the same essay as in previous years, your application will not be considered.*

#### **Acorn Scholarship – Volunteerism and Community Advocacy**

In an essay no longer than 500 words, describe your involvement in the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. Comment on community service, awards received, hours volunteered, and issues advocated.

#### **Central Illinois Friends Scholarship – Volunteerism and Public Health**

In an essay no longer than 500 words, describe your involvement in the public health community. Comment on issues advocated, awards received, hours worked/volunteered, and/or your beliefs about public health.

#### **Korty & Morton Scholarship – Volunteerism, Community Advocacy, and Financial Need**

In an essay no longer than 500 words, describe your involvement in the LGBTQIA community. Comment on community service, awards received, hours volunteered, and issues advocated. ALSO describe your financial need for upcoming educational expenses. Comment on WHY you need the financial support of Acorn Equality Fund.

#### **Luke Scholarship – Academics and Financial Need**

In an essay no longer than 500 words, describe your educational success stories and the obstacles you have had to overcome in order to be successful. ALSO describe your financial need for upcoming educational expenses. Comment on WHY you need the financial support of Acorn Equality Fund.

#### **McKeon Scholarship – Academics, Volunteerism, and Political Advocacy**

In an essay no longer than 500 words, describe your involvement in the political community. Comment on political issues advocated, awards received, hours volunteered, and your beliefs about the political process.

#### **Weber-Tucker Scholarship – Academics and Social (or Family) Hardship**

In an essay no longer than 500 words, describe a significant social or family hardship and comment on your efforts to overcome the hardship.

#### **About Me**

*ALL NEW applicants must respond to **one** of the following two:*

In an essay no longer than 500 words, describe how being gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or allied has affected your life? (Or how has being the CHILD of a gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or allied PARENT affected your life?)

In an essay no longer than 500 words, describe where you see yourself in ten years. What will you be doing? How will you be using your talents to improve the quality of life for gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender people? What are your dreams for your life?

*ALL PREVIOUS scholarship recipients must respond to the following:*

In an essay no longer than 500 words, describe how your previous award(s) and involvement with Acorn Equality Fund has impacted your life.



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## CHECKLIST

The following checklist will help guarantee that you include everything necessary in your application for you to be considered for an Acorn Equality Fund scholarship. Please, make sure you have completed **EVERYTHING** on the list and follow the instructions below for submitting your material to the Acorn Equality Fund Scholarship Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_ Eligible County

(Please check to make sure your permanent address is in an eligible Illinois county. All Illinois counties are eligible except Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Lake, McHenry and Will.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Biographical Information

\_\_\_\_\_ Educational History

\_\_\_\_\_ Confidentiality/Ethical Statement

\_\_\_\_\_ Two Essays

\_\_\_\_\_ Reference Page

\_\_\_\_\_ Letters of Recommendations from References

(Sealed in separate envelopes and signed across the flap)

\_\_\_\_\_ Official Transcripts (From your high school, college, university, technical, or trade school, or a copy of your GED certificate)

All materials must be postmarked by **Friday, September 20, 2024**. Any application packets postmarked **after September 20, 2024** will not be considered.

Instructions for preparing and mailing your application:

- Please either legibly print, or type your application. *(We can't contact you if we can't read your handwriting.)*
- Please print out the application and essays in single sheets, print on **one** side only.
- Do **NOT** staple your application together, please secure it with a paperclip.
- Please mail all materials in **one** envelope to the following address:

**Acorn Equality Fund**  
**PO BOX 6286**  
**Peoria, Illinois 61601**

If you have any further questions, or would like help in completing your application, feel free to contact the Acorn Equality Fund at [acorn1999@gmail.com](mailto:acorn1999@gmail.com).