



# Columbus Citizens Foundation, Inc.

## 2020 Elementary School Scholarship Program

### Introduction

The Columbus Citizens Foundation is a non-profit organization in New York City committed to fostering an appreciation of Italian-American ancestry and achievement. The Foundation, through a broad range of philanthropic and cultural activities, provides opportunities for advancement to deserving Italian-American students through various scholarship and grant programs. Since its founding in 1929, the Foundation has organized New York City's Columbus Day Parade.

It is the Foundation's hope that future generations of Italian Americans will honor those who came before them by upholding the values of love of country, family and a tireless work ethic. It is in this spirit that the Columbus Citizens Foundation offers Elementary School Grants to students who may not have the means to reach their full potential otherwise. Grants, while generous, are partial assistance and will not cover payment for all school costs.

### Scholarship Criteria

To be eligible to apply, students must:

- Be entering Kindergarten through 8th grade
- Be entering a private elementary school in the United States
- Be a United States Citizen/Resident of same status
- Be at least 25% Italian
- Demonstrate academic promise
- Live in a household where the total gross income does not exceed \$20,000 per capita (\$20,000 per person in the household)

*For example, a family of four whose before-tax household income is \$80,000 (4 x \$20,000) or less is eligible to apply. Household income is based upon the before-tax income of the applicant's parent(s)/guardian(s), which includes gross W2 salary, child support, social security, net income from self-employment and all investment income.*

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## Mandatory Interview in New York City

Each semi-finalist is required to appear in person for an interview at CCF in New York City. Any costs associated with travel, meals and accommodations for the semi-finalists and anyone accompanying them to the interview will not be reimbursed by the Foundation. **An invitation to be interviewed does not indicate that you will receive a scholarship.**

## Deadline

Applications and all supporting documents must be submitted to FACTS by **Friday, February 7, 2020**. First, submit the application to FACTS online and second, submit the support documents directly to FACTS by fax or scan/upload to your FACTS application:

**Fax:** (866) 315-9264

**Scan/Upload:** Documents may be uploaded *as PDF files* on the FACTS website.

## Required Supporting Documents

The following five (5) documents are required in addition to your online application.

***\*Include your name and applicant ID# at the top of each page so that your documents are matched with your application.***

- 1. One Letter of Recommendation:** Applicant must submit **one (1)** letter of recommendation from the student's principal, guidance counselor, teacher or religious leader that specifically addresses why the applicant should be selected as a scholarship recipient.
- 2. Academic Performance Verification Form and Attachments (for students entering grades 6 - 8):** Your school guidance counselor or principal must complete an Academic Performance Verification Form (see next page). It is your responsibility to make sure that you submit the completed form and the required attachments (current report card, prior year report card, and *if applicable, statewide exam results and letter of recommendation*).
- 3. Report Cards (for students entering grades 2 - 8):** Include the student's most recent report card as well as prior year's final report card.
- 4. Picture and Description (for students entering grades K - 1):** Student must draw a picture of their last family outing or vacation and write a description of the picture.
- 5. Financials:** FACTS will request documents to verify your household income.

## Call Rule

Please wait 1-2 weeks before calling FACTS to see if they received the required documents.

CCF will contact you by mail regarding the status of your application once all applications have been reviewed.

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**ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE VERIFICATION FORM**

*(Fill out ONLY for Elementary students entering grades 6, 7 or 8 in Fall 2020)*

**Instructions:** This form must be completed by the applicant's school principal or guidance counselor. Complete all fields even if the information appears in accompanying documents. Return this form to the applicant with attachments for submission to FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment.

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Student's Name (please print)

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Elementary School

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School Address

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Current Grade Average

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Prior School Year Grade Average

**Required Attachments:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Current Report Card
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prior School Year Report Card
- \_\_\_\_\_ Statewide exam results (if applicable)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of recommendation (if requested by student)

I certify that the information provided is accurate, and I have provided this information to the student named above for inclusion in the student's scholarship application package.

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Your Name

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Phone Number

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Fax Number

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E-mail Address

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Your Title (Principal / Guidance Counselor)

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Signature

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Date