



**UNITED SQUARE
DANCERS OF AMERICA**
**FOUNDERS MEMORIAL
YOUTH FUND
SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM**



PURPOSE

The United Square Dancers of America – the national dancers’ organization – awards merit-based scholarships to students who have shown their dedication to the promotion and perpetuation of the total square dance movement, including square dance, round dance, contra and clogging, and are members of an affiliated club.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The United Square Dancers of America Founders Memorial Youth Fund expects to award one or more Foundation Scholarships on the basis of merit to high school seniors or college freshmen who are active square, round, contra or clog dancers, and

- Have a record of volunteer service in square dancing, and/or school, sporting or other social organizations such as church, 4-H, FFA, scouting or similar groups.
- Have outstanding leadership potential and communication skills.

CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

Each nominee must:

- Be an active square, round, contra or clogging dancer who is a member of an affiliated club;
- Be a high school senior or college freshman planning to continue their education;
- Submit a Nomination Form signed by the President of the applicant’s USDA affiliate organization, and;
- Be committed to the promotion and perpetuation of the total square dance movement.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

The following items are required for each nominee:

- Completed application.
- Signed nomination form from USDA Affiliate Organization President (download form from USDA website)
- Three letters of recommendation – One from your local square dance club of which you are a member, plus two more which can come from representatives of square dance clubs, schools, church, social clubs or long time acquaintances.
- Applicant’s essay of approximately 500 words on the subject *“The impact square dancing has had on my life.”*
- If additional space is required additional pages can be attached.

NOMINATION DEADLINE The complete nomination package must be received by February 1.

SELECTION PROCEDURES

A committee will review all nominations and selects the recipient(s) on the basis of

- Extent and quality of service to square, round, contra or clog dancing
- Leadership record for all activities.
- Demonstrated dedication to the promotion and perpetuation of the total square dance movement.
- Future leadership potential, communication skills, and the likelihood of “making a difference” in square dancing

SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

The recipient will be announced in June each year at the Annual USDA Board of Directors meeting held in conjunction with the National Square Dance Convention®

Visit the USDA website, www.usda.org/Youth.php to download:

- USDA Scholarship Application Form
- USDA Affiliate Nomination Form
- USDA Scholarship Donation Form