



United Irish Cultural Center (UICC) Leo T. Walsh Scholarship Program 2024 College & High School Scholarship Applications

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF COMPLETE APPLICATION: March 17, 2024

PLEASE READ ALL REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION

Eligibility Requirements:

- 8th grader continuing to high school or a high school senior entering a university or college
- Applicant's chosen school must *require tuition and/or fees* as awards are only payable to the institution. California Community Colleges are ineligible.
- Awards must be used by March 17, 2025

Application Information:

- Available online: <https://irishcentersf.org/scholarships>
- Application includes a Personal Information Sheet, Recommendation Form and Essay.
- No application documents will be accepted after the March 17, 2024, deadline.
ONLINE SUBMISSIONS are not accepted.
- Applicants will receive an email confirming the receipt of their completed application by March 24, 2024. ***Please respond to ensure that we have your correct email.***

PERSONAL INFORMATION SHEET (Attachment 1)

- Include an email that you and/or parent access regularly; provide additional emails if necessary.
- Print legibly.

RECOMMENDATION FORM – USE ONLY THE ATTACHED 2-PAGE FORM (Attachment 2)

- Completed by applicant's counselor, school administrator, or current teacher.
- Form can be delivered with the Personal Information Sheet and essay in a separate, sealed envelope or mailed directly to the UICC. **It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the recommendation is received (not postmarked)** by March 17, 2024.
- DO NOT include additional letters of recommendation, transcripts, etc. These will not be reviewed or considered in the scoring.

ESSAY – points deducted for format errors.

- Double-spaced, typed, Arial, 12-point font, single-side of paper.
- Name on first page and pages numbered (e.g., 1/3).
- DO NOT include additional photos, artwork, etc.

An independent committee evaluates the essays and applicants' names are redacted. Accuracy in answering the essay subject is essential so be certain that you clearly address the specific topic. Essays become the property of the UICC and will be available in the library at the conclusion of the program. (cont.)

ESSAY (cont.)

Eighth Grade Topic: (500 words or less)

Select a **specific location in Ireland** located in the same county as any of your ancestors. State your reason for choosing the location. Describe the place and share its historical significance and any familial importance.

High School Senior Topic: (750 words or less)

Irish songs and literature not only reflect Irish history but also take a record of it. Whether it is a rough new beginning, gruesome battle or magical legend, care is always given to portray the emotions of the event. Choose a song or piece of literature and state your reasons for your choice. Describe its history, cultural influence, and any familial importance.

INTERVIEW/ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE

Based on the combination of the recommendation (15%) and essay (60%) scores, a limited number of qualifying applicants (semi-finalists) will be invited to participate in the final stage. Interview questions will be emailed on the morning of **Sunday, April 14, 2024** and must be returned within two hours. Semi-finalists must be available to complete the questions on the scheduled date.

This score will be combined with the earlier scores to determine the successful scholarship finalists. Finalists will be notified in late April at which time applicant's chosen school is requested for award check issuance.

PLEASE NOTE: Submission of award check to high school or college is the responsibility of the awardee.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, March 17, 2024: application deadline (including recommendation).

By March 24, 2024: confirmation emails sent; please respond.

By April 7, 2024: notification of semi-finalists

April 14, 2024: interview question and answer session.

By April 30, 2024: finalists announced, and award information requested.

May 2024: scholarship awards presentation; attendance is not required



Due: Sunday, March 17, 2024
ATTACHMENT 1

Mail to:
United Irish Cultural Center
Attn: Leo T. Walsh Scholarship Program
2700 45th Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94116

Drop off:
Scholarship Application Box located at the UICC (outside the St. Francis room).
Mailbox slot located on Wawona Street door (corner of 45th Avenue).

Your Application Packet must include the following:

- _____ Completed Personal Information Sheet (this page)
- _____ Completed Essay (please follow guidelines)
- _____ Completed Recommendation Form – included or submitted separately.

Please email scholarship@irishcentersf.org if you have any questions.

Student's name: _____

Preferred email: _____ Phone: _____

Home Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Current school: _____ Schools applying to: _____

Parent Name(s): _____

Phone Number: _____ Email _____



**United Irish Cultural Center
Leo T. Walsh Scholarship Program
2024 College & High School Scholarship Recommendation Form (ATTACHMENT 2)**

Due: Sunday, March 17, 2024

Student's name _____

Current school _____

Dear School Administrator, Counselor or Teacher:

This student is applying for a 2024 scholarship sponsored by the UICC Leo T. Walsh Scholarship Program. An important element of the application process is your evaluation of the student. Please complete the recommendation form and assign a numerical score for each category. Your thoughts are extremely important in the selection process. Please **do not include any additional letters, transcripts, etc.** **Only the responses on this form will be evaluated.**

All evaluation forms are **confidential**.

You may return the form to the student in a sealed envelope, or you can mail it directly to:

United Irish Cultural Center
Attn: Leo T. Walsh Scholarship Program,
2700 45th Ave. San Francisco, CA 94116

*****Must be received by March 17, 2024 We do not accept late submissions.*****

Name of school administrator, counselor, or teacher: _____

Academic relationship to applicant: _____

Email address: _____

Student's Name: _____

Please evaluate the applicant in each of the following three categories using a scale of 10 to 1 (Ten (10) being "Outstanding" and One (1) being "Fair".)

Please fill in a numeric score for each category

1) Standards of Conduct: **Score:** _____

Please comment on student's commitment to upholding the mission of your institution.

2) Leadership Skills: **Score:** _____

Please comment on student's interest/ability to lead peers. Please list specific examples and/or positions the student holds.

3) Commitment to Education: **Score:** _____

Please comment on student's interest in learning, both inside and outside the classroom.