



RECORDING FOR THE BLIND & DYSLEXIC

Application Form

for

The 2001 Mary P. Oenslager Scholastic Achievement Awards

*For Outstanding College Seniors
Who Are Blind*

The **Mary P. Oenslager Scholastic Achievement Awards (SAAs)** are presented annually by **Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D)** to blind college seniors in recognition of extraordinary leadership, scholarship, enterprise and service to others. Offered since 1959, the awards are given to a total of nine students in three categories: three Scholastic Achievement winners receive \$6,000 each; three Special Honors winners \$3,000 each; and three Honors winners \$1,000 each.

RFB&D has been offering these awards since 1959. The deadline for this year's application is **February 21, 2001**. Winners in all categories will be chosen by a selection committee, and the three top winners will be presented their awards at an event to be announced.

RFB&D, a nonprofit volunteer organization, is the nation's educational library serving people who cannot effectively read standard print because of visual impairment, dyslexia or other physical disability. RFB&D's vision is for all people to have equal access to the printed word.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for consideration, candidates must meet all four criteria:

- 1 Be legally blind
- 2 Be registered with RFB&D for at least one year prior to February 21, 2001 (*individually or through a college or university*)
- 3 Have received a bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university in the United States or its territories between July 1, 2000, and June 30, 2001 (*candidates need not plan to continue their educations further*)
- 4 Have an overall academic average for their undergraduate years of 3.0 or more on a 4.0 scale (*or the equivalent average if not computed on a 4.0 scale*)

Instructions

Candidates who meet the eligibility criteria must submit the following documents together in *one package postmarked no later than February 21, 2001*:

- 1 **A PERSONAL APPLICATION AND STATEMENT** (*attached*), which must be completed and signed by the candidate
- 2 **TWO ESSAYS**
- 3 **TWO PROFESSOR/COLLEGE ADMINISTRATOR REFERRAL FORMS**, which must be completed and signed by professors or college administrators who know the candidate personally and can evaluate classroom performance and extracurricular activities
- 4 **AN OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT** of the candidate's college grades, covering three-and-a-half or four years (*from all colleges the candidate has attended*)

Please **DO NOT** include any information (*such as news clippings, photos or additional references*) other than what is specifically asked for. Such information will not be considered and will not be returned.

Mail all application materials together, postmarked by **February 21, 2001**, to:

Public Affairs Office — Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
20 Roszel Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
(609) 452-0606 ext. 8044



The 2001 Mary P. Oenslager Scholastic Achievement Awards

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
AIM ____ OR Individual ____
of books borrowed: _____
Registration date/date begun: _____
Last active/last used: _____

Personal Application and Statement

Please type or clearly print and include ONLY the information that is requested in the spaces below. You may also find this form online at www.rfbd.org.

Applicant's name: _____

Social Security number: _____ Date of birth: _____

What is your particular disability? _____ Totally blind Legally blind

How you registered: Individually Through a college or university

If registered individually, please give RFB&D Identification Number: _____

If through a college or university, please give name of contact person and phone number:

Contact name: _____ Phone number: _____

School now attending (official name): _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Your Campus Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Permanent home address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Undergraduate degree granted between July 1, 2000, and June 30, 2001:

BA BS Other Date of graduation: _____

Major: _____ Minor: _____

3½- or 4-year grade average (rated on a 4.0 scale): _____ Class rank: _____

Honors, awards and honorary society memberships: _____

Special achievements (scholarships or talents): _____

Extracurricular and off-campus activities: _____

Career aspirations: _____

Essays

PLEASE TYPE YOUR RESPONSES TO THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ON SEPARATE SHEETS OF PAPER. PLEASE BE SURE TO TYPE YOUR NAME ON EACH PAGE.

- 1 Please provide us with a personal statement of no more than two pages that tells us more about you. Please include what you consider important about your background; your nonacademic activities, interests and hobbies; and your future personal and professional aspirations.
 - 2 Please detail in one page how and when you discovered RFB&D; how our recorded and computerized textbooks have helped you in your studies; and what role you expect RFB&D to play in your future.
-

Signature

Your signature constitutes a pledge that this statement is entirely your own work. In addition, by signing this form, you agree to participate in RFB&D media activities and give RFB&D permission to use the information you have supplied in this questionnaire, as well as photographs of you, in publications, publicity and fundraising materials.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

This form must be mailed together with two professor/college administrator referral forms and an official college transcript, postmarked by **February 21, 2001**, to:

**Public Affairs Office
Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
20 Roszel Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
(609) 452-0606 ext. 8044**



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Professor/College Administrator Referral Form

PLEASE TYPE OR CLEARLY PRINT

Applicant's name: _____

Name of college or university: _____

Name of professor or college administrator: _____

Title and department: _____

Telephone (office): _____ Fax: _____

The student whose name appears above is applying for a Mary P. Oenslager Scholastic Achievement Award, presented by **Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic** to college seniors in recognition of extraordinary leadership, scholarship, enterprise and service to others. Because so many of our applicants present strong credentials, a recommendation from you offering specific information about the accomplishments and qualifications of the applicant, and your comments as to how RFB&D has helped this student, will be most helpful to the selection committee in its evaluation.

Your estimation of the applicant's academic performance, intellectual promise and personal qualities will be carefully reviewed. If you are aware of contributions the applicant has made to the school or community, please comment on his/her talent, dedication and effectiveness.

Please use the back of this sheet or simply attach this signed form to a letter.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

This signed form must be mailed with the candidate's personal application, college transcript and school profile, postmarked by **February 21, 2001**, to: **Public Affairs Office, Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, 20 Roszel Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08540.**