



The  
**STARR**  
Charitable Foundation  
Scholarship

The STARR Charitable Foundation Scholarship presents a unique opportunity for students residing in the state of Wyoming or Michigan's upper peninsula.

High school seniors who are residents of Wyoming or Michigan's upper peninsula are invited to apply for this scholarship for attendance at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan.

## WHAT IS THE STARR CHARITABLE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP?

This scholarship will pay all regular costs for eight (8) semesters at Michigan State University, the nation's premier Land Grant University. Benefits include tuition, fees, books, room, board, and incidental expenses as defined by the University, beginning with fall semester of each year.

An anonymous private donor has established the STARR Charitable Foundation Scholarship to provide a unique education opportunity for multiple students from the State of Wyoming or Michigan's upper peninsula. These are students whose ability to secure a college education may be limited by their family resources.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

To be considered for this scholarship, students must:

1. Apply for, and be eligible for, admission to Michigan State University as soon as possible, no later than November 1, 2016 of the year prior to entry to MSU. Apply online at [admissions.msu.edu](http://admissions.msu.edu).

All freshman applicants are required to submit an SAT or ACT score. The writing portion is recommended but not required.

2. Upload your four essays outlined in this document to your account at [beaspartan.msu.edu](http://beaspartan.msu.edu) on or before November 1, 2016, prior to the year of entry to MSU.

3. Upload three (3) letters of recommendation from persons who are not related to you and who know you well enough to address how you exemplify the criteria for the award. See letters of

recommendation section for details.

## REQUIRED ESSAYS

The STARR Charitable Foundation Scholarship review panel will focus upon a variety of qualities and characteristics to select the nominees for the award. Refer to the section on criteria in this brochure for more details.

In order to assist the review panel in identifying these qualities, each candidate is expected to prepare a short essay for each of the numbered items below. These short essays are in addition to the personal statement that was submitted with the MSU admissions application. Please limit your response to each item to 250 words.

### Required essay topics:

1. Describe a meaningful experience, either related to a course or an extracurricular activity, and discuss how this experience exemplifies your ambition and enthusiasm for learning.

2. Part of leadership is the ability to make sound decisions and inspire others to identify and work towards a set of shared goals. Reflect on a leadership opportunity and a) state three characteristics that you believe were key to being an effective leader, b) briefly explain what you learned about your own leadership style, and c) consider how the leadership experience influenced your approach to future leadership opportunities.

3. Highlight a characteristic or skill that uniquely characterizes you. How does it set you apart from your peers? Provide an example of how you have used this skill or characteristic to positively impact others.

4. Briefly describe a situation when you faced a difficult decision. Reflect on a) the alternatives you considered, b) why you selected the alternative you did, and c) the impact of your final decision on you and others (if applicable). What, if anything, would you have done differently?

## LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Three letters of recommendation must be submitted in support of your application. These letters must be from teachers, counselors, employers, or others who know you. They cannot be from anyone who is related to you. These letters must be postmarked or uploaded through your [beaspartan.msu.edu](http://beaspartan.msu.edu) account by November 1, 2016.

Printable versions of the letters of recommendations are available on the [starr.msu.edu](http://starr.msu.edu) website. The sheets describe the expected content of the letters of recommendation and the deadline for submission. Please give these to the three individuals you select. Be sure to sign the confidentiality statement, whether or not you intend to waive your right to review the letters.

All application materials must be postmarked by November 1, 2016 to:  
Office of Admissions  
Hannah Administration Building  
426 Auditorium Road, Room 250  
East Lansing, MI 48824-2604

If you have questions, Wyoming students may contact Ben Brown at (517) 432-9815 or [brownb42@msu.edu](mailto:brownb42@msu.edu). Students in Michigan's upper peninsula should contact Tania Kurzawa at (906) 360-2196 or [kurzawa@msu.edu](mailto:kurzawa@msu.edu).

The decision of the STARR Charitable Foundation selection of award recipients will be final.

## DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1, 2016

- ACT or SAT test scores submitted to MSU directly from the testing agency
- Application for admission
- Scholarship application
- Letters of recommendation