

The Student Activist Grant

Sponsored by
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530
516-741-7304 www.ehsli.org

Grants up to \$500 are available for social action projects by students ages 12 to 18 (middle school and high school students) who attend school in Nassau County, NY.

Contact:
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530
Email: office@ehsli.org
Phone: 516-741-7404

Web: www.ehsli.org



The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island is a religious and educational institution dedicated to the idea that the supreme aim of life is to create a world of respect, justice, and love. We are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation.

Create a Caring World

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The Student Activist Grant helps students (ages 12 to 18) perform social action projects by providing an annual grant for up to \$500 for projects by students in Nassau County, NY. The recipient could create his or her own program or connect with an existing program such as an established food bank, the Habitat for Humanity, Sustainable Long Island, the League of Women Voters, or others. This grant helps the recipient with materials or other costs so that fundraising could be achieved or social actions completed.

These projects could include (but are not limited to):

A. Fundraising

Students could perform fundraising activities for money to be donated to:

1. people who are homeless or financially needy,
2. humanitarian /world outreach (such as Amnesty International, UNICEF)
3. disadvantaged populations such as veterans, elderly, sick children, etc.
4. disaster relief
5. environmental groups

Example 1: A student wants to sell hand-crafted note cards to raise money to be donated to Amnesty International. The Young Activist Grant would pay for materials and other expenses to start this.

Example 2: A student wants to host an event (e.g., pancake breakfast, volleyball tournament) to raise money to be directly donated to a not-for-profit such as the American Red Cross for disaster relief, or to buy furniture for a homeless shelter. The Young Activist grant would allow the student pay for the event, with profits going to the organization.

B. Action projects

Students could perform action projects that create change directly, rather than funding another group.

Examples (not limited to these ideas):

1. area clean-ups or improvements
2. recycling programs
3. book drives, school supplies drives
4. food, clothing, furniture drives for hurricane victims, homeless, etc.
5. voter registration drives in poor neighborhoods
6. blood drives, bone marrow drives
7. care packages for soldiers or veterans
8. tutoring/job training in academics, technology, finance, music, or art lessons to disadvantaged children or teens
9. community organization projects; for example, organizing for better public transportation, creating bicycle lanes, adding public recycling bins to town streets.

Example 1: The student wants to beautify an urban area by covering graffiti and painting a mural in a neighborhood. The Young Activist Grant could pay for paint and supplies. The student would have to select the site, receive proper permits, and do the work.

Example 2: The student wants to create school recycling programs. The grant could provide bins for the recycled material, advertising posters in the school, notices to parents of young children, etc.

Qualifications:

1. Nassau County resident, aged 12 to 18. More than one student can work on the project. The grant funds the project, not the individual(s).
2. Grants are available only to nonmembers of the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island.

Guidelines

Applications are available online at www.ehsl.org under the "Social Action" tab. Applications are also available by mail.

1. Student must submit a grant application for the project including: objectives, expected expenses, action steps, and time frame for completion. The project should be completed by May 15 of the following year, or if an on-going project, some measurable progress made.
2. Grant approval is made on a case-by-case basis. The grants will be made based on the ethical, moral, and social action merits of the project.
3. A committee of EHSLI members shall be appointed to review grant applications.
4. The committee may ask the student to modify his or her project proposal if the project is deemed impractical or too costly.
5. Projects done for course credit, community service hours, or class requirements are permissible. However, EHSLI must always be listed as a sponsoring agent.
6. Projects may not be conducted on behalf of a for-profit institution or group.
7. Grants are awarded on a project basis, not an individual basis. For example, two people working on a project would be granted up to \$500, not up to \$1000. No student may receive more than one grant, either concurrently or consecutively. Each project will be funded only once. Projects will not be funded retroactively; that is, these must be new projects.
8. Grants will be limited to \$500. If the project costs more than that amount, the recipient must assure the grant committee that that additional funds will be available or raised for the completion of the project through other methods.
9. Grant money will be awarded after receipts are supplied or a reasonable estimate of the budget is submitted and there is evidence that the project will go forward. In no case will EHSLI supply more than \$500 for any expenses.
10. Not funded: Salaries or other compensation for time spent on the project.
11. The student may be requested to provide periodic updates on the progress of project to the board or designated EHS members.
- 12. EHSLI and the Student Activist Student Social Action Grant must be mentioned in any press releases, online media or media reports as the funding source for the project.**
- 13. The student must attend a Sunday morning meeting or other spring event hosted by the Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island to describe his or her project. Date of event to be determined, will occur between April and June.**

DEADLINE: The deadline for the grant application is November 30. Winners will be notified within 2 weeks. Funding will occur at the beginning of the project once the student submits a detailed explanation of expenses and time frame for conducting the project. Students must be available to pick up the check from our Garden City location at an agreed-upon time. The project should be completed or well established (in the case of an ongoing effort) by April of the following year.

Student Activist Grant Application
Sponsored by The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email address _____

School _____ Grade _____

Do you have your parents' permission for this project? Yes _____

Parent, please sign: _____

Name of your project: (for example, School Recycling Project)

What is it that you'd like to accomplish? (for example: I'd like to get the elementary schools in my district to recycle milk cartons and juice boxes)

What steps do you envision you need to take to accomplish your goal? (use separate paper if necessary)

What is the time frame for your project?

What costs do you anticipate (for example, postage, materials, publicity, and expected cost of each):

Please note: grants for available for up to \$500, but this does not guarantee that a full \$500 will be granted. Expenses must be reasonable to the scope of the project.

If you needed more money than this grant allows, how would you raise the funds?

What motivates you to want to work on this particular project?

Attestation

Your signature below indicates that you agree with each of the following statements.

I will use the allotted funds for the stated purpose of the project.

I will make every effort to fulfill this project within the expected time frame.

I will use all funds in the manner described.

I will not use any of the funds for salaries or compensation for time, for myself or anyone else.

I will provide periodic updates on the project as requested.

I will present my completed project at the Ethical Humanist Society in the spring.

I understand that no more than \$500 will be allotted to my project, and that if I need any additional funds, they must be raised through other methods.

I am willing to take part in any publicity about my project, including photographs, that may appear in media outlets such as newspapers or the on internet.

I will always mention the Student Activist Grant of the Ethical Humanist Society as the sponsoring agent.

I have parental permission to conduct this project.

Signature _____ Date _____

Please keep a copy of this application.

Submit application to:

Student Activist Grant Committee
The Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
38 Old Country Road
Garden City, NY 11530

Questions? Call 516-741-7304.