



TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR THE
GIFTED & TALENTED

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarships

The Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented (TAGT) offers scholarships to help gifted students, grades K-12, attend summer programs. The TAGT Summer Scholarships are based upon merit, not financial need. ***The application deadline for TAGT scholarship applications is February 27 if submitted electronically. If sent by mail, it must be postmarked by February 25; all applicants will be notified of their status by April 15.*** Learn more about TAGT at www.txgifted.org.

TAGT Summer Scholarships

These scholarships are for identified gifted students, grades K-12, who are currently participating in a gifted program. The maximum summer scholarship award is \$400. Students may use these scholarships to attend programs with an academic, fine arts, or performing arts focus. The scholarships cannot be used for sports or recreational camps.

The highest-scoring elementary student and secondary student applicants are chosen, respectively, as the Carole Vermillion and Ann Shaw Scholarship winners and receive \$500 each. The **Ann Shaw Student Scholarship** honors Ms. Shaw, a founding member of TAGT and the first director of the Division of Gifted and Talented for the Texas Education Agency. The **Carole Vermillion Scholarship** honors Ms. Vermillion, a parent advocate and also a founding member of TAGT.

Summer scholarship winners must complete and return the required conformation form by June 15 or the award will be forfeited. Please note that for accounting purposes scholarship checks are made payable to both the program and the scholarship winner unless the tuition has been pre-paid. Direct payment to the student can be made only when the tuition has been pre-paid and a receipt for payment is sent to TAGT with the confirmation form.

TAGT Scholarship Application Directions

Please read these instructions carefully prior to completing a TAGT scholarship application.

- All TAGT scholarship applications must be submitted electronically by **noon on Friday, February 27**, or if mailed, postmarked by Wednesday, February 25.
- **Applicants in public schools must be currently identified as gifted and receiving services in a gifted program. Verification must be obtained by the signature of a campus G/T specialist, G/T classroom teacher, counselor, or district G/T coordinator.**
- **Students in private schools or home-schools are eligible to apply;** there must be supporting documentation through previous public school testing, Mensa membership, or outside psychological testing. Contact the TAGT Associate Director for additional information.
- **A current TAGT professional or parent member may sign as a sponsor but it is NOT required.** Applicants who have a TAGT sponsor will receive a bonus point when the application is scored. It is acceptable for a family member or friend to join TAGT and serve as a sponsor for the application.
- Student applications must be the work of the student. Any typed portion of the scholarship application must be in a font size of at least 12 points.
- Applicants must adhere to the space limitations.
- Applicants must not submit samples of their work or any portfolio items. All extra materials will be removed from applications prior to evaluation.
- Submit only the required number of recommendations. Any additional letters of recommendation will be removed from the application prior to evaluation.
- The best-written responses discuss the strengths of the applicant and give detailed examples. They are specific to the individual and help the evaluators understand the personality of the applicant.
- Incomplete applications are not considered. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the application is complete. See each application for a complete list of required materials.
- No more than one TAGT Summer Scholarship is awarded to a student within a three-year period.
- The maximum amount for a TAGT Summer Scholarship award is \$400.
- Please note that applying for a TAGT Summer Scholarship does not constitute application to a specific program; you must apply to the summer program of your choice directly; **TAGT does not run summer programs.**
- TAGT Summer Scholarships are contingent upon acceptance into the summer program of your choice. Scholarship checks are made payable to both the program and the scholarship winner for accounting purposes, unless tuition has been pre-paid.

Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented

1524 South IH 35, #205, Austin, TX 78704

(512) 499-8248

www.txgifted.org

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Scoring

Written responses on the applications are evaluated holistically. Three different readers use the following rubric to evaluate the applications, with slight variations for the various scholarship awards:

8-Superior: This response answers the questions very thoroughly and completely. Wording is clear and precise, leaving no doubts about the intended meaning. There are detailed and elaborated responses, providing specific and appropriate examples about the applicant.

7-Between Superior and Commendable.

6-Commendable: This response is clear, thorough, and to the point. It leaves no doubt about the intended meaning. There are somewhat detailed and elaborated responses to the questions, and specific and appropriate examples about the applicant are given.

5-Between Commendable and Acceptable.

4-Acceptable: This response is clear and straightforward, with little doubt about the intended meaning, but is not as thorough as the responses above. Examples are provided, but with less detail or elaboration. It has some elements of a 4 or 5, but lacks the same depth or quality.

3-Between Acceptable and Limited.

2-Limited: This response is vague and lacks a clear focal point. The writing relates to the topic, but contains few specific examples. There is very little detail or elaboration in the response and does not fully answer the question.

1-Inadequate: This response is very weak. It does not address the question in any meaningful way. It lacks any specific examples. This response also may be off-track and not relevant to the application.

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application

General Information Page

STUDENT INFORMATION

Student Name _____ Girl ___ Boy ___ Current Grade _____

School District _____ School _____

You must have the signature of a school official, such as a campus G/T specialist, G/T classroom teacher, counselor, district G/T coordinator, or an administrator, who can verify your status as a gifted student:

Printed Name of School Official: _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENT INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Home Address _____
Street/Box _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

E-mail address of parent/guardian _____ Region (see map, p. 14) _____

Home Phone _____ Work or Cell Phone _____

Are you currently a TAGT member? Yes ___ No ___ Is a membership enclosed? Yes ___ No ___
(TAGT membership is appreciated but not required for this scholarship application.)

Is your child eligible for free or reduced lunch? Yes ___ No ___ (This is for data collection only.)

PROGRAM INFORMATION

You must apply to a summer program for admission. This application is only for a TAGT Summer Scholarship.

NOTE: If you won a summer scholarship in 2013 or 2014, you are not eligible to apply this year.

Name of Summer Program _____

Address _____
Street/Box _____ City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Program Website _____

Program Cost _____ Amount of scholarship requested (\$400 maximum) _____

SPONSOR INFORMATION

IMPORTANT: It is not required for a scholarship applicant to have a TAGT member sign as a scholarship sponsor. However, if a TAGT member at the Professional or Parent level does sign below, the application will receive a bonus point. (A TAGT member at the Supporter level is NOT eligible to be a sponsor.) TAGT will verify sponsor membership. It is permissible for a parent or friend to join TAGT and be the sponsor.

Optional: Printed Name of TAGT Member _____

Optional: Signature of TAGT Member _____

Email Address _____ Customer ID # _____

Please sign below to verify that the work on student responses #1A and #1B is the work of the student applicant.

Student Applicant Signature

Parent Signature

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application

Student Response • Part 1A

Student Name: _____

Instructions to the applicant:

Please answer the following question. Your response should include information about you personally, as well as some of your interests and accomplishments. This part is extremely important in the selection process. You may only use these two pages to respond to the question.

1A. What would you like the TAGT Scholarship Committee to know about you?

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application Student Response • Part 1A (continued)

Student Name: _____

1A. What would you like the TAGT Scholarship Committee to know about you?

Incomplete or faxed applications **will not** be considered. **A complete application includes:**

- General Information Page
- Student Summer Scholarship Application, Parts 1A and 1B
- Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form, Part 2A and 2B
- Adult/Professional Recommendation Form, Part 3

• **Staple all parts of the application together and mail to:**

Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented

1524 South IH 35, #205

Austin, TX 78704

Applications must be postmarked by February 25. *Students will be notified of their status by April 15. Scholarship awards are mailed 10 to 14 days after receipt of Summer Scholarship Confirmation Form.*

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application

Student Response • Part 1B

Student Name _____

Summer Program _____

Instructions for the applicant:

Please answer the following question. Your response should include information about specific interests you have and how this summer program will help meet your needs. This part is extremely important in the selection process. You may use only these two pages to respond to the question.

1B. Why do you want to attend this summer program?

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application

Student Response • Part 1B (continued)

Student Name _____

Summer Program _____

1B. Why do you want to attend this summer program?

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- Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form, Part 2 and 2B
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• **Staple all parts of the application together and mail to:**

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2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form • Part 2A

Student Name _____

Instructions for the parent/guardian:

To give a strong recommendation for your child, elaborate on your responses, focusing on your child's strengths. Be sure to include specific examples. The TAGT Scholarship Committee is especially interested in supporting evidence **outside** of the school environment. You may use only these two pages to respond to the question.

2A. What would you like the TAGT Scholarship Committee to know about your child?

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form • Part 2A (continued)

Student Name _____

2A. What would you like the TAGT Scholarship Committee to know about your child?

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- General Information Page
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2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form • Part 2A

Student Name: _____

Instructions for the parent/guardian: The TAGT Scholarship Evaluation Committee wants to know whether there are financial circumstances that may make it difficult for this student to attend a summer program without a TAGT Summer Scholarship. This question is not scored on the 1-8 scale like the other questions; a bonus point may be awarded.

2B. Do you have any financial circumstances about which the TAGT Scholarship Evaluation Committee should be aware?

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application Adult/Professional Recommendation Form • Part 3

(To be filled out by an educator, mentor, community member, or adult other than the parent.)

Student Name: _____

Name of School: _____

Name of person making recommendation: _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Relationship to student (i.e. teacher, mentor, coach, etc.) _____

If teacher, for what class? (Please note subject area, grade, and whether it is a class for gifted):

Instructions for the adult/professional: A student application is enhanced by a strong adult recommendation. To make a strong recommendation of a student elaborate on your responses focusing on the strengths of the applicant. Include examples, if possible. If you are making recommendations for more than one student, please individualize your responses. You may use only these two pages to respond to the question.

3. What makes this student deserving of a TAGT scholarship?

2015 TAGT Summer Scholarship Application Adult/Professional Recommendation Form • Part 3 (continued)

Student Name _____

3. What makes this student deserving of a TAGT scholarship?

Incomplete or faxed applications **will not** be considered. **A complete application includes:**

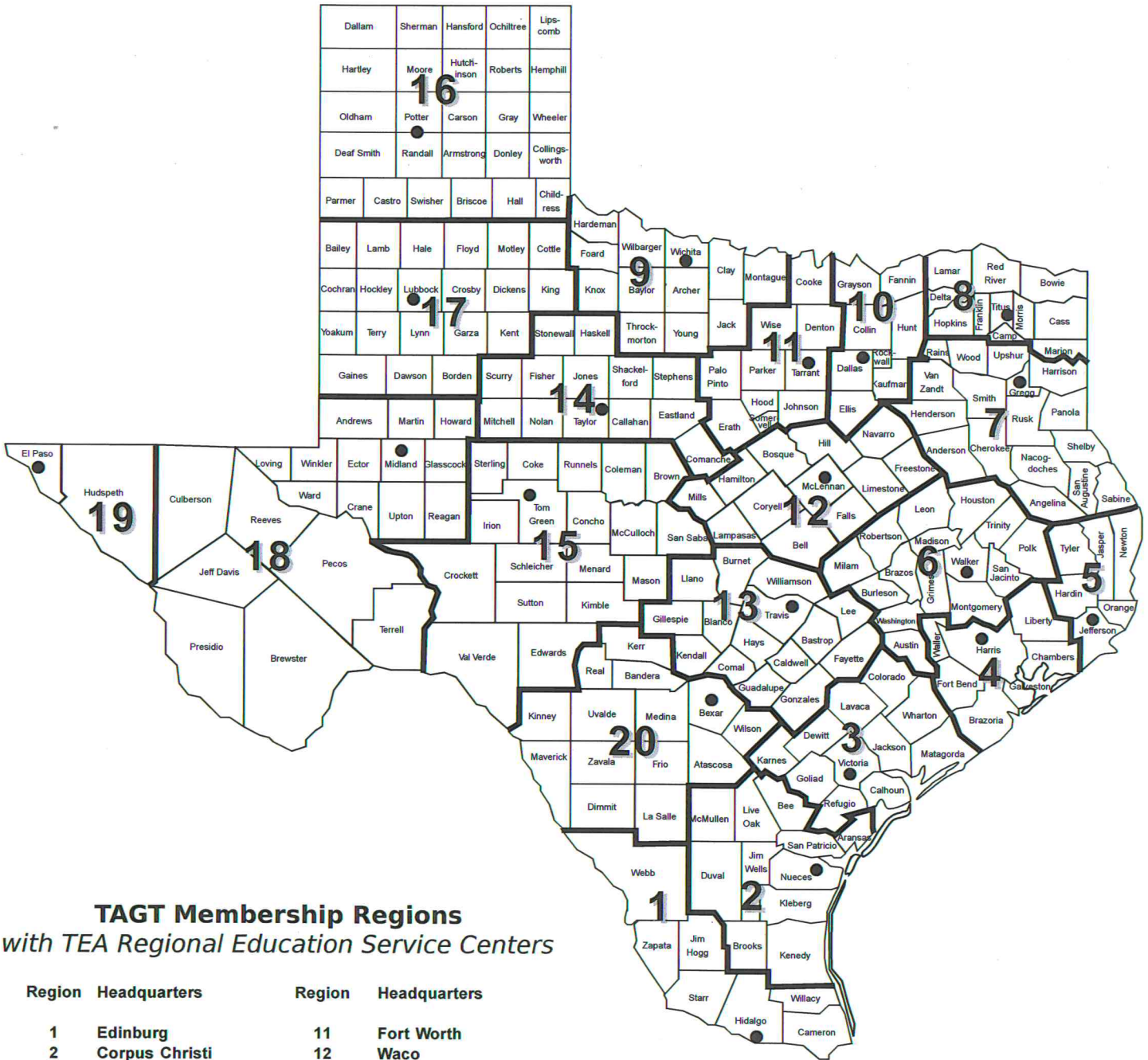
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TAGT Membership Regions



TAGT Membership Regions
with TEA Regional Education Service Centers

| Region | Headquarters | Region | Headquarters |
|--------|----------------|--------|--------------|
| 1 | Edinburg | 11 | Fort Worth |
| 2 | Corpus Christi | 12 | Waco |
| 3 | Victoria | 13 | Austin |
| 4 | Houston | 14 | Abilene |
| 5 | Beaumont | 15 | San Angelo |
| 6 | Huntsville | 16 | Amarillo |
| 7 | Kilgore | 17 | Lubbock |
| 8 | Mount Pleasant | 18 | Midland |
| 9 | Wichita Falls | 19 | El Paso |
| 10 | Richardson | 20 | San Antonio |