

JACK KENT COOKE  
  
FOUNDATION

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# NOT EVEN THE SKY IS THE LIMIT

Nearly \$150 million in scholarships awarded in the nation's largest  
scholarships to high-achieving students with financial need

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# Cooke College Scholarship Workshop Webinar

JACK KENT COOKE  
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Program Overview  
Application & Tips  
Q&A



## Presenters



**Anna Neuman**  
Sophomore at MIT  
studying Chemical  
Biological  
Engineering



**Chelsea Southworth**  
Freshman at Duke  
University studying  
Evolutionary  
Anthropology



**Larry Thi**  
Alumni and Outreach  
Associate at the Jack  
Kent Cooke  
Foundation

## Program Benefits

- Receive up to \$40,000 per year to attend a four-year accredited undergraduate institution for tuition, living expenses, books, and other required fees
- Have access to advising about selecting a college, navigating financial aid, transitioning to college, and maximizing the college experience



## Continuing support for graduate school

- Be automatically eligible for up to \$50,000 a year of graduate school funding for up to three years after successful completion of college



## Scholar Community and Network

- Have a community and network of scholars that spans the country and globe
- Scholars Weekend
  - Attend a scholarship gathering like none other



## Eligibility

- Plan to graduate from a U.S. high school in spring 2016.
- Intend to enroll in an accredited four-year college beginning in fall 2016.
- Earn a cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.5 or above.
- Receive standardized test scores in the top 15%: SAT combined critical reading and math score of 1200 or above and/or ACT composite score of 26 or above.
- Demonstrate unmet financial need.

## Who is the Cooke Scholar?





# Your Application Team

**The Applicant/Student**

**The Parents/Guardians (Parent Form)**

**The Academic Recommenders (Recommendations)**

**The Principal or Guidance Counselor (School Profile)**

## General Tips/Common Mistakes

- **Begin right away.** Many students don't allow for enough time to complete the application.
- **Follow up with your recommenders, parents/guardians, guidance counselors, et al.** Students often focus only on their part of the application and then forget to remind the other "team" members to complete their parts.
- **Finish the application.** Many students start the application and even get very far in the process but do not submit by the deadline. Set a reminder for the deadline, **November 3, 2015** on your calendar.

▼ School Form

Instructions

▶ School Information

Applicant's Academics

← Dashboard

**School Profile**  
Should be  
completed by a  
counselor or  
administrator.

## School Information

School Name

School Street Address

School City

School State

School Zip Code

School Type

School Website

CEEB Code

## School Profile

Does your school have an officially published School Profile?

# Recommendations

## **Recommendation 1**

11<sup>th</sup> Grade Core Subject Area Teacher

*Core subjects include English, Math, Social Studies, Science, and Foreign Language*

## **Recommendation 2**

Any other teacher from high school

## **Scholarship Selection Criteria**

Academic ability and achievement, Financial need, Persistence, Desire to help others, Leadership

Nara Lee has asked for a recommendation from you Inbox x



**Jack Kent Cooke Foundation** scholarships@jkcf.org via amazonses.com  
to me ▾

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JACK KENT COOKE  
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Nara Lee is applying for the **2016 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation College Scholarship Program**, and you have been requested to submit a **Recommendation Form** in support of this applicant. Thank you in advance for taking the time to complete the recommendation form.

The Recommendation Form is an online form with scaled rating items and some short answers. It should take you approximately 20 - 30 minutes to complete. Your recommendation must come through our online form, we will not accept recommendations via email, fax, or mail.

The deadline is **Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 12:00 noon**, Eastern time. ***Failure to submit your recommendation by this deadline will result in disqualification of the applicant.***

[Click here to create your account and begin the Recommendation Form.](#)

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact us. Customer service staff are available 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday - Friday, except holidays.

Sincerely,

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation  
Customer Service Center  
[Contact Us](#)

▼ Applicant

Nara Lee

▼ Recommendation Form

Recommender Information

▶ Applicant Assessment

← Dashboard

## Applicant Assessment

Please respond to the following questions, providing comments or explanations as requested. The scaled questions include four anchor-point descriptions (1, 3, 5, and 7) with blanks in between (2, 4, and 6). Please use the 1-to-7 continuum to rate the student using the descriptions for reference.

1. On a scale of 1 to 7, which best describes the applicant's concern for others?

2. In your observation of this student working with others, how well does s/he serve in the following roles within a group?

1. Listener

2. Collaborator

3. Organizer

4. Hard worker

3. On a scale of 1 to 7, how would you rate the applicant's ability to motivate others and serve as a positive role model?

4. Jack Kent Cooke Scholars inspire and influence those around them in ways both apparent and subtle. Share an example to help us better understand this student's leadership qualities and how they interact with others.

1800 Character Limit

5. When this student receives constructive feedback, he/she

# Parent Form

## Taxes

2012 and 2013: 1040 forms only  
no schedules or attachments

2014: all forms, including 1040 form(s), W-2 form(s),  
schedules, and attachments

## General Information

Household, student (applicant), and waivers

# Student/Applicant

- Short Answers and Essays
- Activities and Involvement / Honors and Awards
- College Plans
- Academics
- Test Scores
- Self-Assessment
- Conduct / Survey



## Student/Applicant – Little Time

- Short Answers and Essays
- Activities and Involvement / Honors and Awards
- College Plans
- Academics
- Test Scores
- **Self-Assessment**
- **Conduct / Survey**

## Student/Applicant – Some Time

- Short Answers and Essays
- **Activities and Involvement / Honors and Awards**
- College Plans
- **Academics**
- **Test Scores**
- Self-Assessment
- Conduct / Survey

# Student/Applicant – More Time

- **Short Answers and Essays**
- Activities and Involvement / Honors and Awards
- **College Plans**
- Academics
- Test Scores
- Self-Assessment
- Conduct / Survey

## Short Answers and Essays

- Create a chart of all the essays you need to write for college and scholarship applications.
- Answer the question.
- Be real, and remain positive.
- Ask for feedback from one or two readers.
- Proofread.

# Strategies to Approach the Writing

## Short Answer

Scholars are committed to making the world a better place. They are inventing solutions, advocating for others, and giving back to their communities. However, most started with small steps. What steps, big or small, have you taken to make your own impact on the world? (Limit 600 characters/100 words~)

## Essay

Tell us about a time when your curiosity led you someplace you were not expecting to go. (Limit 1800 characters/325 words~)

## Selection Criteria

- Academic ability and achievement
- Financial need
- Persistence
- Desire to help others
- Leadership

# Timeline

**Early September**  
Application Opens

**Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 12:00pm, noon, Eastern time**  
Student Application Deadline

**January 2016**  
Semifinalists are notified by email

**March 2016**  
Finalists are notified

## Words of Advice

### Anna

- Ask for recommendation letters in advance and in person
- Leave plenty of time to edit your essays
- Let yourself shine through in the essays

### Chelsea

- Give yourself time
- Don't be afraid to approach the prompt from an unexpected angle
- Showcase the breadth of your interests and passions

### Larry

- What is the prompt asking? Rephrasing the prompt.
- Think about what you are going to write and organize your thoughts before you start writing.
- Use clear, concise and simple language throughout the essay.



## Additional Help and Info

Cooke College Scholarship application  
now available online through **November 3, 2015**  
[application.jkcf.org](http://application.jkcf.org)

Questions?

Call toll-free: 855.509.5253

Email: [scholarships@jkcf.org](mailto:scholarships@jkcf.org)