



**OFFICIAL RULES: CHET Advance Scholarship  
2019-2020 School Year**

**Overview**

The 2019-2020 CHET Advance Scholarship will provide up to two hundred twenty-four (224) college scholarships, in the amount of either \$2,023 (merit-based) or \$1,250 (random selection) to Connecticut high school freshmen. Recipients must have a grade-point average of a 2.0, or C, or higher, and indicate their intention to enter a post-secondary study program during the fall of 2023 (or by fall 2024 if the student defers the start of post-secondary school for up to a year post-high school graduation). Each recipient has the opportunity to receive up to an additional \$500 match (see match criteria below) for a total award of either \$2,523 or \$1,750 depending on the category. The total award will be held by the sponsor and the scholarship will be distributed in the form of a physical check, made out to the college that the student will be attending. The scholarship check will be mailed to the student recipient’s home address after graduation, in the summer of 2023 (or by September 2024 if the student defers the start of post-secondary school for up to a year post-high school graduation).

**Application Period**

Students must complete and submit an application between **8:00 A.M. EDT on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 and 11:59 P.M. EDT on Thursday, March 12, 2020.**

**Entry and Award Categories**

**1. Merit**

Up to one hundred sixty (160) \$2,023 merit scholarships will be awarded to high school freshmen who complete a civic engagement assignment as follows: Student must interview a community, civic, or government leader and complete the following questions on the application, with attention to spelling and grammar, critical thinking and reflection on their civic engagement topic, and organization and overall presentation:

1. How did / does the person you interview inspire you? (Word limit 150)
2. What was the most valuable insight you gained through your conversation? (Word limit 150)
3. What does civic engagement mean to you? What are your future goals to have a voice or leadership role in your own community? (Word limit 250)

Responses will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Demonstration of critical thinking and reflection on the subject of civic engagement.
- Organization and overall presentation of responses.
- Spelling and grammar.

In the event of a tie between submissions based on their merit, the judges will re-evaluate such submissions according to the above criteria and choose the most complete among them.

The 160 merit recipients will be selected from the following groups:

- Sixteen (16) scholarships will be awarded to high school freshmen who attend a high school in the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), including:

A.I. Prince Technical High School, Hartford	Bristol Technical Education Center, Bristol
Bullard-Havens Technical High School, Bridgeport	CT Aero Tech School for Aviation Maintenance, Hartford
E.C. Goodwin Technical High School, New Britain	Eli Whitney Technical High School, Hamden
Ella T. Grasso Technical High School, Groton	Emmett O’Brien Technical High School, Ansonia
H.C. Wilcox Technical High School, Meriden	Harvard E. Ellis Technical High School, Danielson
Henry Abbott Technical High School, Danbury	Howell Cheney Technical High School, Manchester
J.M. Wright Technical High School, Stamford	Norwich Technical High School, Norwich
Oliver Wolcott Technical High School, Torrington	Platt Technical High School, Milford
Stratford School for Aviation Maintenance Technicians, Stratford	Vinal Technical High School, Middletown
W.F. Kaynor Technical High School, Waterbury	Windham Technical High School, Willimantic

- Sixteen (16) scholarships will be awarded to high school freshmen who attend an identified Turnaround or Focus high school, as defined by the State Department of Education, including:

A. I. Prince Technical High School, Hartford	Bassick High School, Bridgeport
Bulkeley High School, Hartford	Bridgeport Military Academy, Bridgeport
Crosby High School, Waterbury	Culinary Arts Academy at Weaver High School, Hartford
Eli Whitney Technical High School, Hamden	High School, Inc., Hartford
High School In The Community, New Haven	HPHS Engineering and Green Technology Academy*, Hartford
HPHS Law and Government Academy*, Hartford	HPHS Nursing and Health Sciences Academy*, Hartford
James Hillhouse High School, New Haven	John F. Kennedy High School, Waterbury
Journalism and Media Academy, Hartford	New London High School, New London
Stamford Academy, Stamford	Stevens Alternate High School, East Hartford
Warren Harding High School, Bridgeport	Wilby High School, Waterbury

\*HPHS = Hartford Public High School

- One hundred twenty-eight (128) scholarships will be awarded (sixteen (16) high school freshmen from each of Connecticut’s eight (8) counties) to recipients who attend any public, private, or parochial Connecticut high school; or attend a public, private, or parochial school outside of Connecticut and either the student or one of the student’s parents or guardian resides in Connecticut; or are home-schooled in Connecticut. Applicants from the CTECS and Turnaround/Focus school categories who were not selected in those categories will be added to the larger county category award selection.

If there are no applicants from either the CTECS or Turnaround/Focus school categories, unused awards will be reassigned to the general, all-school merit category. If candidates are not available in the general merit category, unused awards will be reassigned to the random selection category. Applicants that do not win in the merit category are eligible to win in the random selection category.

## 2. Random Selection

Sixty-four (64) \$1,250 scholarships will be awarded via random selection. There will be separate, random drawings to select the sixty-four (64) recipients as follows:

- Sixteen (16) scholarships will be randomly awarded to high school freshmen who attend a high school in the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS), including:

A.I. Prince Technical High School, Hartford	Bristol Technical Education Center, Bristol
Bullard-Havens Technical High School, Bridgeport	CT Aero Tech School for Aviation Maintenance, Hartford
E.C. Goodwin Technical High School, New Britain	Eli Whitney Technical High School, Hamden
Ella T. Grasso Technical High School, Groton	Emmett O’Brien Technical High School, Ansonia
H.C. Wilcox Technical High School, Meriden	Harvard E. Ellis Technical High School, Danielson
Henry Abbott Technical High School, Danbury	Howell Cheney Technical High School, Manchester
J.M. Wright Technical High School, Stamford	Norwich Technical High School, Norwich
Oliver Wolcott Technical High School, Torrington	Platt Technical High School, Milford
Stratford School for Aviation Maintenance Technicians, Stratford	Vinal Technical High School, Middletown
W.F. Kaynor Technical High School, Waterbury	Windham Technical High School, Willimantic

- Sixteen (16) scholarships will be randomly awarded to high school freshmen who attend an identified Turnaround or Focus high school, as defined by the State Department of Education, including:

A. I. Prince Technical High School, Hartford	Bassick High School, Bridgeport
Bulkeley High School, Hartford	Bridgeport Military Academy, Bridgeport
Crosby High School, Waterbury	Culinary Arts Academy at Weaver High School, Hartford
Eli Whitney Technical High School, Hamden	High School, Inc., Hartford
High School In The Community, New Haven	HPHS Engineering and Green Technology Academy*, Hartford
HPHS Law and Government Academy*, Hartford	HPHS Nursing and Health Sciences Academy*, Hartford
James Hillhouse High School, New Haven	John F. Kennedy High School, Waterbury
Journalism and Media Academy, Hartford	New London High School, New London
Stamford Academy, Stamford	Stevens Alternate High School, East Hartford
Warren Harding High School, Bridgeport	Wilby High School, Waterbury

\*HPHS = Hartford Public High School

- Thirty-two (32) scholarships will be randomly selected, (four (4) high school freshmen from each of Connecticut's eight (8) counties) to recipients who attend any public, private, or parochial Connecticut high school; or attend a public, private, or parochial school outside of Connecticut and either the student or one of the student's parents or guardian resides in Connecticut; or are home-schooled in Connecticut. Applicants from the CTECS and Turnaround/Focus school categories who were not selected in those categories will be added to the larger county category random award selection.

A maximum of ten (10) recipients may be from any one school. If candidates from any school group are not available, unused awards will be reassigned to the general county category.

### **Match Criteria**

Each recipient has the opportunity to receive an additional \$500 match if they save \$500 in an individual CHET account by December 31, 2022 of the recipient's senior year of high school. The family of the recipient is responsible for opening the individual CHET 259 college savings account and contributing at least \$500, or if the family already has a CHET account for the recipient student, ensuring that an additional \$500 is contributed prior to the deadline.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Must be a freshman enrolled in a Connecticut high school, during the 2019-20 school year, as defined above, and at least 13 years of age.
- Must have a cumulative 2.0 grade-point average, or C, or higher, at time of application and maintain that average through high school.
- Must intend to attend college or other post-secondary study program beginning no later than September 30, 2024 (student can defer college for one year post high-school graduation). If an applicant receives an award under the CHET Advance Scholarship, but does not enter college by September 30, 2024, the award will be forfeited and withdrawn.
- For Merit scholarship eligibility, applicant must complete the civic engagement assignment. Applicant must select a community, civic, or government leader to interview and complete a series of questions and required fields on the application. Additional details and criteria are available at [www.chetadvance.com](http://www.chetadvance.com).

*Prohibited Students:* Any otherwise eligible high school freshman whose parent is, or if the student resides in the household of, an employee of the Office of the State Treasurer, TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing Inc., Hartford Funds or ISTS is ineligible to participate in the CHET Advance Scholarship, if such employee provides direct support to the CHET Advance Scholarship or, in the case of employees of Hartford Funds, its 529 programs.

### **How to Apply**

Please read all information in this document regarding application deadline and eligibility requirements.

- Applicants must submit a complete entry form during the application period in conformance with these rules electronically at <https://aim.applyists.net>.
- Applicants will be required to establish an account on the ISTS site to apply and provide verification and college attendance information, where appropriate, if he or she is selected as a recipient.
- Applicants must upload their most recent report card or high school transcript, or equivalent if home schooled, verifying their GPA and enrollment as a high school freshman by the application deadline.

For questions about the CHET Advance Scholarship application process, applicants can contact ISTS by clicking on the Live Chat tab within the online application or by calling 1-855-670-ISTS (4787) Monday through Friday from 9:30 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. EDT or via email at [contactus@applyists.com](mailto:contactus@applyists.com).

### **Limit on Applications**

Each eligible student can only submit one (1) completed application. Incomplete submissions will not qualify to be entered in the Drawings. Multiple entries for the same student are not permitted. In the event more than one entry is received for an eligible student, the first completed entry processed will be considered the only valid entry received.

### **Recipient Selection and Verification**

In March 2020, recipients will be selected based on the stated scholarship criteria, from all eligible applications received. Recipient selection and verification will be conducted by ISTS. If a selected recipient does not meet the eligibility requirements as set forth above, the selected recipient will be disqualified and an alternate recipient will be randomly selected.

ISTS will contact the winning applicants by using the required email address provided on the student's application. An applicant then has sixty (60) calendar days to electronically respond to the notification and submit online an Affidavit of Eligibility/Liability Release/Publicity Release form or the scholarship award will be forfeited and awarded to an alternate.

#### **How the Scholarship will be Awarded to Pay for School**

All funds for recipient awards will be held by TFI and Hartford Funds, and will be held with the other recipients' awards. TFI and Hartford Funds will retain ownership of the funds until a recipient submits all required verification and college choice information at <https://aim.applyists.net>.

Award recipients will receive an email from ISTS in the spring of 2023 with instructions on how to request the award. Students will need to log-in to their account at <https://aim.applyists.net> and complete the requested information, including the name of the college or university or other eligible postsecondary education institution they will be attending, GPA, match verification, and confirmation of the correct home mailing address. Checks will be made payable to the school, and mailed by early August to the student's home address on file with ISTS.

#### **Award forfeiture**

An award will be forfeited upon:

- No enrollment/request for withdrawal made by September 30, 2024. Any amounts not utilized will be returned to the CHET Advance Scholarship's general account maintained by the Office of the State Treasurer and the recipient shall no longer be considered a CHET Advance Scholarship recipient and shall have no further claim to any such amount.
- A determination by the Sponsor, in its sole discretion, that false statements were made or false information was provided by a recipient of the CHET Advance Scholarship award.

#### **Sponsor**

The CHET Advance Scholarship is sponsored by the Office of State Treasurer Shawn T. Wooden, who is the Trustee of the Connecticut Higher Education Trust (CHET).

#### **Administrator**

TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing, Inc. (TFI) is the administrator of the CHET Advance Scholarship. TFI has retained International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc. (ISTS) to manage the application process and selection process used for the scholarship awards.

The CHET Advance Scholarship is funded by TFI, located at 730 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017-3206 and Hartford Funds, located at 200 Hopmeadow St., Simsbury, CT 06089. No award issued under the CHET Advance Scholarship uses Connecticut state funds. Further, no public funding is used for CHET Advance Scholarship marketing or promotion. Funding for marketing is provided by the CHET-direct program manager, TFI.

#### **Miscellaneous:**

The odds of winning the CHET Advance Scholarship depends on the number of eligible entries received during the promotion.

The Sponsor is not responsible for errors, omissions, interruptions, deletions, defects, or delays in operation or transmission of information, in each case whether arising by way of technical or other failures or malfunctions or computer hardware or software, communications devices, data corruption, theft, unauthorized access to or alteration of offer materials, or otherwise. Sponsor reserves the right (a) to modify, suspend, or terminate this offer at any time for any reason, including any technical failure, unauthorized human intervention, or other causes beyond Sponsor's reasonable control that corrupt or adversely affect the security, administration, or proper conduct of this offer; and (b) to disqualify any individual who tampers with the offer process.

**To learn more about the Connecticut Higher Education Trust, its investment objectives, tax benefits, risks and costs, please see the Disclosure Booklet at [aboutchet.com](http://aboutchet.com). Read it carefully. Investments in the Plan are neither insured nor guaranteed and there is the risk of investment loss.**

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