

Thank-you for your interest in The Robert Guthrie PKU Scholarship and Merit Awards!

Notes to potential applicants:

Please see page 2 for information about **eligibility and other details of the program**. Please note that starting in 2009, the awards are no longer open to graduate students; only undergraduate students are eligible.

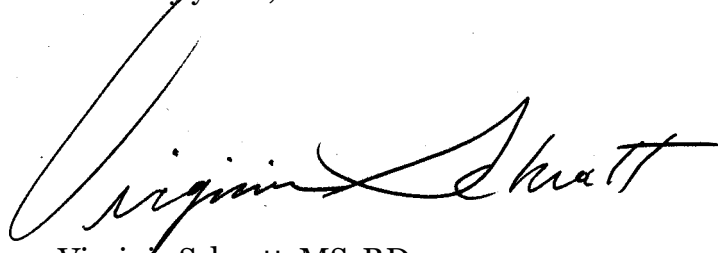
Applicants need to **download the entire application** that follows, then complete it by hand and return it to me at National PKU News with a postmark no later than **November 1** to be eligible for this year's awards. *If you have extenuating circumstances that make this deadline impossible for you to meet, please contact me in advance and I will consider your situation.*

For the **four letters of recommendation** that are required for your application, you will need to add the date by which you would like the person writing the letter to respond (in designated space at the bottom of the forms that are found at the end of this application). Also, *be sure to request your transcripts (including any standardized test scores) far enough in advance to receive them in time to enclose with your application.*

The scholarship committee very much looks forward to receiving your application. It will be our privilege to bestow each winner not only a **financial award**, but also with a **story in National PKU News** as well as a framable **certificate of recognition**. If you are one of the winners, you will be joining an elite group of young people, and will have this very special honor to remember and inspire you for the rest of your life.

Please contact me via e-mail or telephone if you have any questions as you work on the application. I look forward to receiving your completed application.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia Schuett". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Virginia Schuett, MS, RD

Chairperson, Robert Guthrie PKU Scholarship and Awards Committee

Director and Editor, National PKU News



The Robert Guthrie PKU Scholarship

This higher education scholarship program honors the memory of Dr. Robert Guthrie. The program was started by National PKU News after his death in June 1995. The first scholarships were awarded for the 1998-99 academic year.

Background of the scholarship program:

Dr. Guthrie developed the newborn screening test for phenylketonuria (PKU) in 1961. He then worked tirelessly for more than thirty years to establish newborn screening programs in the US and many other countries. Every family of a child with PKU born after the mid-1960's in a country where newborn screening is done has reaped the benefits: more than 20,000 of their children have been saved from devastating mental retardation caused by untreated PKU. Early screening and a special diet have allowed these young people to grow up normally and lead full, productive lives.

There is no question that young people with PKU bound for higher education programs owe this opportunity to early screening and treatment. Without early PKU identification, they could be living in institutions or group homes for the retarded instead of planning to attend college or technical school. It seemed fitting to establish a scholarship program in memory of Dr. Guthrie, who made their achievements possible.

From its start in 1989, Dr. Guthrie was a member of the Board of Directors of National PKU News. National PKU News is a non-profit organization devoted to bringing news and other information to families living with PKU. Beyond his single-minded dedication to preventing mental retardation caused by PKU, throughout his life Dr. Guthrie was a devoted advocate for families living with it. National PKU News was started with his strong support and encouragement.

Who is eligible:

Scholarships are open to any young person with PKU who is on the diet and about to attend or already attending a college, university, or technical school AT THE UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL (graduate students are no longer eligible for the awards beginning in 2009). Residents of any country may apply. Applicants must be accepted to an accredited college, university or technical school before the scholarship is awarded, but may apply for the scholarship before acceptance is confirmed.

Who will review scholarship applications:

A scholarship committee will review all applications. The committee consists of well-known PKU professionals and Guthrie family members.

Application deadline:

Applications for The Robert Guthrie PKU Scholarship are accepted annually. Completed applications must be postmarked by November 1 each year for scholarships awarded for the following academic year.

Scholarship awards:

Each year, scholarships will be announced at the end of January.

The number of scholarships awarded, and the amount granted in any given year will vary, depending on the applications received and the funds available.

The award will be sent after receipt of a college acceptance letter.

Application forms:

Applicants must submit the completed Robert Guthrie PKU Scholarship form, transcripts of academic records, the applicant's statement, three letters of recommendation, and a letter from the PKU treatment physician. Letters of recommendation should be from instructors, college staff, employers, etc. (do not ask friends, relatives, or classmates). Academic transcripts are to be sent from the school to the applicant, using the request form provided, and then enclosed with the completed application. Letters of recommendation, using the form provided, are also to be sent to the applicant, in a sealed envelope, and enclosed with the completed application, .

Criteria for evaluating applicants:

The Robert Guthrie PKU Scholarship committee will consider the following factors for each applicant (not necessarily ranked in order of importance):

- academic records
- educational/career goals
- the applicant's statement
- letters of recommendation
- extracurricular activities and volunteer work
- financial need*

* financial need will be considered, but is not crucial. You can be awarded a scholarship without having significant financial need.

PKU History

Approximate age (in days or weeks) when your PKU was diagnosed _____

Have you ever been off the diet? (give dates if yes) _____

Average blood phe control in past several years (mg/dl or $\mu\text{mol/L}$) _____

This is the average of how many blood specimens? _____

How will your PKU medical formula be paid for during your academic career? _____

Other Information

Where will you live during the term for which this scholarship will be used?

with parents dormitory off campus, paying rent or mortgage

Of which country are you a citizen? _____

If not a U.S. citizen, are you a permanent resident of the US?

yes no

Have you applied for, or are you receiving, other financial aid (scholarships, loans, grants)?

yes no

If yes, give details (name of program, amount requested/granted, etc.) _____

Academic Information

Academic goals:

bachelor's degree master's degree doctoral degree law degree medical degree
 other

Expected major/minor _____

If vocational/technical school, name of job-related program _____

School you expect to be attending:

name

street address

city

state

zip

Other schools you are considering (name only):

Your year in school for which the scholarship will be applied:

freshman sophomore junior senior

Expected total costs for the year in which the scholarship will be used

Tuition, in U.S. \$ _____

Estimated cost of books and materials, in U.S. \$ _____

If vocational/technical school, cost of work related supplies, in U.S. \$ _____

Financial Information

Previous Year's Total Gross Income, Earnings, and Benefits (from federal income tax return):

Parent's Income (if you are a dependent, or receive substantial financial help from them)

\$ _____ in U.S. currency (use current exchange rate if a non-U.S. citizen)

Applicant's personal income \$ _____ in U.S. currency (whether or not you are a dependent)

Do you support yourself? _____

Number of dependents in the family and ages (for yourself if you have a family of your own to support) _____

If you or your family have unusual circumstances, such as PKU medical expenses not covered by insurance, unusual non-PKU medical or dental expense not covered by insurance, a family member who is a dislocated worker, or other unusual circumstances that affect your financial status, please describe below:

This information will be held in strictest confidence. Applicant's signature below indicates that the above financial information is true and complete to the best of your knowledge. (If asked for proof of the information, proof may include a copy of your income tax return.)

Signature _____

Please rate your need for a college scholarship, A "1" indicates without assistance you will not be able to attend college and "7" indicates no particular financial need:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

List any previous educational experience post-high school. Please indicate whether you received financial assistance:

| Name and Location of School | Dates Attended | Degree Received | Financial Aid? |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
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Applicant's Statement

This is a very important part of the application. Through your words, please "paint a portrait" of yourself for the scholarship committee. Please carefully review it for typographical and spelling errors before sending it, and use your best English composition skills!

On separate paper, typed, please state the following in narrative/essay form. NOTE: Your answer to #3, as you are describing a number of activities, can be presented as an outline, but does not have to be. However, commentary about the activities is still helpful in giving the committee a more complete understanding about your involvement, so please add more details about an activity when you think it would be helpful. Be specific in your answers. Your statement should be no longer than **seven typed pages, double-spaced**. Your statement should include the topics listed below. PLEASE GIVE EACH ONE A PROMINENT SUBHEAD IN YOUR STATEMENT (for example, ***Why I am Applying for the Scholarship, My Educational Objectives and Career Plans, My School and Community Activities, Honors and Awards I have Received, My Work History (if any), Diet Summary, My Overall Experience and Attitudes about PKU.***)

- 1) Why you are applying for the scholarship.
- 2) Your educational objective(s) and career plans, if known, and what factors/interests have led you in this direction.
- 3) A description of your extracurricular activities, such as on-campus student activities, family activities, community activities, clubs, student offices held, sports activities, involvement in musical groups, any involvement you have had with PKU-related activities, etc. Please include any comments you have about these activities.
- 4) Honors and awards you have received, academic or otherwise.
- 5) If you are currently employed, state your employer's name, the type of work you do and the hours you work per week.
- 6) Describe your current diet in some detail, and how you cope with it on a daily basis, at school and at home.
- 7) As accurately and articulately as possible, please describe your overall experience with PKU, your attitudes toward the PKU diet both now and in the past, and what influence PKU has had

on your life. Please include any pertinent information about your family and how they have helped you deal with PKU. (Please expand on your thoughts as much as possible).

Letters of Recommendation

We prefer that at least two of the three required letters be from school teachers who know you and your work well. One of the three can be from an employer or long time family friend who has observed you in different situations. However, the strongest letters of recommendation usually come from academic sources. The letters need to be accompanied by the rating form enclosed in the application.

Letter from PKU Treatment Clinic

Please request a letter from your PKU treatment clinic physician or nutritionist. The letter should briefly describe your PKU history and treatment and include a recommendation for the Robert Guthrie Scholarship. Include the letter, in a sealed envelope with letterhead from the clinic, when you mail your completed application form. The letter needs to be accompanied by the rating form enclosed in the application.

Check List: Have You Completed the Application As Required?

My application for The Robert Guthrie PKU Scholarship includes the following (please check off):

- Application Form (including recent photo in color)
- Applicant's Statement
- Three letters of recommendation in sealed envelopes
- Letter from my PKU treatment physician or nutritionist in a sealed envelope
- Transcripts (from **HIGH SCHOOL** and **ALL COLLEGES** I have previously attended) **INCLUDING TEST SCORES WHEN AVAILABLE** in a sealed envelope.
- I have mailed all required parts of the application to National PKU News, postmarked no later than **NOVEMBER 1** (*except by prior arrangement*).

Please put your completed application, including transcripts, test scores, and letters of recommendation, in a large envelope. Send to: National PKU News, 6869 Woodlawn Ave. NE #116, Seattle, WA 98115. It must be postmarked by November 1 unless you have special circumstances that you have discussed with Virginia Schuett, Chairperson of the Guthrie Scholarship Committee; contact her at schuett@pkunews.org, or tel: 206-525-8140.

Thank-you for your application!

The Robert Guthrie PKU Scholarship
Request for Official Transcript
(and College Entrance Exam Scores, when available)

Name of school _____

Address _____

Student's name _____

Student's permanent address

street address

city

state

zip

country

Student's date of birth _____

Student's ID number _____ Student's Social Security # _____

Student's signature _____ Date _____

*Please send a copy of the official transcripts, in a sealed envelope along with this form
directly to the applicant for inclusion in the application form.*

Thank you!

