

Application Guidelines

Think Big. Work Hard. Achieve.

► ELIGIBILITY

If you are able to answer “yes” to these four questions, you are eligible to apply to the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars Program:

1. Will you enter 8th grade in fall of 2009?
2. Do you earn grades of all or mostly 'As' in school, with no 'Cs' or below in the past two years in your academic subjects?*
3. Does your family have demonstrated unmet financial need?***
4. Are you planning to attend a high school in the U.S.?

*Exception: Students with unique talents or documented learning differences.

***While there is no formal cut-off, since inception, over 90% of Young Scholars chosen come from families with Adjusted Gross Incomes (AGI) below \$60,000. We take into consideration: high cost of living expenses in some areas, extraordinary medical expenses, number of dependents in college, number of dependents, and high cost of supporting children with learning differences.

► SELECTION CRITERIA

The Foundation reviews each application individually, with the assistance of a panel of national experts. Young Scholars are chosen based upon the criteria below. While all of these criteria are important, the Foundation pays particular attention to the first two.

- **Academic ability and high achievement:** Strong academic record, academic awards and honors, and a substantive assessment by a teacher providing a confidential letter of recommendation. We consider grades (typically a GPA above 3.65, or mostly 'As'), achievement test scores, commitment to learning, and work ethic.
- **Unmet financial need:** Limited family income and insufficient funds to cover most or all education-related expenses. The average family income of previous classes of Young Scholars has been \$25,000.
- **Will to succeed:** Determination and perseverance in the face of challenges, and success in other pursuits.
- **Leadership and public service:** Initiative on behalf of others, such as participation in volunteer, community, and school-related activities.
- **Critical-thinking ability:** Responses to application questions that demonstrate critical thinking.
- **Appreciation for or participation in the arts and humanities:** Appreciation of, involvement in, or study of music, art, literature, or similar fields.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, sex, age, physical or mental disabilities, sexual orientation, or national origin. Foundation staff, board members, and their families are not eligible to apply.

► APPLICATION COMPONENTS

The Young Scholars Program application consists of the following forms:

1. **Application Checklist**
2. **Student Application**
3. **Parent/Guardian Form**
- 4a. **Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form and Tax Forms**
- 4b. **Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form and Tax Forms (if applicable)**
5. **School Report**
6. **Teacher Recommendation**
7. **Personal Recommendation**
8. **Survey Form**

► INSTRUCTIONS

- Ensure that the student meets the eligibility requirements.
- Follow directions carefully and complete all appropriate sections on each form. Mark N/A where appropriate.
- Fill out all forms in legible handwriting using blue or black ink (with the exception of the student-typed essay). Only students with a disability that prevents them from writing by hand may submit a Student Application that is typed (such applicants should use the Student Application in Microsoft Word format found on the Foundation's website*).
- Use only the space provided on each form unless otherwise indicated.
- Write the student's name in the space provided at the top of each page of every form submitted.
- Include appropriate signature(s) on each page of every form submitted.

Application Guidelines

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► INSTRUCTIONS CONTINUED

- Include all tax forms, schedules, and attachments with the Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form. Include Supplemental Self-Employment Form if applicable.
- Provide the noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) with these Application Guidelines, the Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form, and Supplemental Self-Employment Form, if applicable. The same receipt deadline applies to this form, but it may be mailed separately to the address below.
- Sign the top of each Recommendation Form, provide the forms to appropriate people, and inform them of your April 27, 2009 receipt deadline. Ask that they return the completed forms to you in signed, sealed envelopes or that they mail the completed forms directly to the address below.
- Use the Application Checklist to ensure that the packet is complete before mailing. Please note the instructions on the Application Checklist that detail the number of copies of each form that need to be submitted.
- Submit all parts of the application together in the same package (with the exception of Recommendations sent directly by recommenders and the Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form, if applicable). Do not use staples or paper clips.
- Do not submit non-required materials (e.g., additional letters of recommendation or writing samples).
- Do not attempt to submit application materials via fax or email.
- If you have questions while completing the application, contact the talent center that serves your state:

Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth (AK, AZ, CA, CT, DE, HI, ME, MA, MD, NH, NJ, NY, OR, PA, RI, VT, VA, WA, Washington, D.C., WV, or US Territories)
1-410-735-6270
email: jkc@jhu.edu

Duke University Talent Identification Program (AL, AR, FL, GA, IA, KS, KY, LA, MS, MO, NE, NC, OK, SC, TN, or TX)
1-919-668-9100
email: jkc@tip.duke.edu

Northwestern University Center for Talent Development (IL, IN, MI, MN, ND, OH, SD, or WI)
1-847-491-3782 ext. 8
email: ctd@northwestern.edu

University of Denver Center for Innovative and Talented Youth (CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, or WY)
1-303-871-2983
email: rmts-info@du.edu

The Foundation collaborates with the talent identification centers at Duke, Johns Hopkins, and Northwestern Universities, and the University of Denver. Please note that you need not be participating in the talent centers' programs to apply to the Young Scholars Program.

- **Applications MUST BE RECEIVED at the address below by APRIL 27, 2009 to be considered eligible.**
- **Mail the complete application packet to:**
Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
Young Scholars Program
301 ACT Drive, PO Box 4030
Iowa City, IA 52243
1-800-498-6478 (for use on overnight delivery forms)

► NOTIFICATION

All applicants will be mailed a postcard confirming receipt of application. The Foundation notifies all applicants of final decisions by October 2009.

For further information concerning the Young Scholars Program, please see the Foundation's website.*

Application Checklist—Receipt Deadline: April 27, 2009

Applicant name _____
Last First

► INSTRUCTIONS

As specified in the Application Guidelines, please ensure that your application is complete before mailing. Check the appropriate boxes to indicate the materials included in your packet and enclose this signed form. Note that some application components require an additional two copies.

► PART I. APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Application Checklist
- Student Application (including typed essay) **plus two copies**
- Parent/Guardian Form **plus two copies**
- Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form **plus two copies**
- Copy of entire 2008 Federal Tax Forms and W-2 Form(s), schedules and attachments (if applicable) **plus two copies**
- Copy of score report from SAT Reasoning Test (SAT) and/or ACT test (ACT) (if taken) **plus two copies**
- Survey Form

Recommendations:

- ▷ School Report (required for all except home-schooled applicants)
 - Check here if School Report is included in application packet in a signed, sealed envelope
 - Check here if School Report is being mailed by recommender in a signed, sealed envelope
- ▷ Teacher Recommendation
 - Check here if Teacher Recommendation is included in application packet in a signed, sealed envelope
 - Check here if Teacher Recommendation is being mailed by recommender in a signed, sealed envelope
- ▷ Personal Recommendation (optional for all except home-schooled applicants)
 - Check here if Personal Recommendation is included in application packet in a signed, sealed envelope
 - Check here if Personal Recommendation is being mailed by recommender in a signed, sealed envelope

Also, if applicable:

- Any notes of explanation requested on Parent/Guardian Form and/or Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form **plus two copies**
- Supplemental Self-Employment Form **plus two copies**
- A Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form may be mailed separately. Check here if the Foundation should expect to receive this form.

Make an additional copy of all of the completed application materials for your own records (with the exception of the sealed recommendation forms).

► PART II. CERTIFICATION

- We certify that the application packet is complete.

Applicant's Signature (required) Date

Custodial Parent's/Guardian's Signature (required) Date

Other Custodial Parent's/Guardian's/Stepparent's Signature (required if applicable) Date

Student Application — Receipt Deadline April 27, 2009

Think Big. Work Hard. Achieve.

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

► **INSTRUCTIONS**

This form must be completed by the applicant. As specified in the Application Guidelines, answers must be handwritten using blue or black ink, unless a disability prevents the applicant from writing by hand (such applicants should use the Microsoft Word format application on the Foundation website). Please do not include additional materials that are not specifically requested. See the Application Guidelines for other essential instructions.

► **PART I. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Gender M F Date of birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of county (e.g., Loudoun County, Fairfax County) _____

Home phone _____ Cellular phone _____

Email address _____

Current grade in school _____ Grade entering in fall 2009 _____

School type currently attending Charter Home-school Magnet Parochial Private/Independent Public

Is English your first language? Yes No If "no," at what age did you start speaking English? _____

What is the primary language spoken at home? _____

Place of birth City _____ State _____ Country _____

If not born in the United States, when did you move here? Month _____ Year _____

► **PART II. HONORS, INTERESTS, AND ACTIVITIES**

1. Please list up to five academic or other awards or honors that that you have earned in the last two years. Spell out any acronyms. *List the awards or honors in order of importance to you from most to least.*

1. Name of award/honor _____ Date received _____

School award State award Regional award National award

2. Name of award/honor _____ Date received _____

School award State award Regional award National award

3. Name of award/honor _____ Date received _____

School award State award Regional award National award

4. Name of award/honor _____ Date received _____

School award State award Regional award National award

5. Name of award/honor _____ Date received _____

School award State award Regional award National award

Student Application (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

2. Please list up to five school-related extracurricular activities *from sixth grade to present* (such as club memberships, positions held in student government, or involvement with sports), the years you participated in each (e.g., 2007-09), and include any leadership positions held (such as team captain or president). Spell out any acronyms. *List activities in order of importance to you from most to least.*

Name of Activity	Year(s) of Participation	Position Held

3. Please list up to five activities in which you have participated outside of school *from sixth grade to present* (such as fine arts, music, sports, or civic/volunteer activities), the years you participated in each (e.g., 2007-09), and include any leadership positions held. For volunteer activities, please also list any sponsoring organizations (e.g., church, Boy or Girl Scouts, Boys or Girls Club). Spell out any acronyms. *List activities in order of importance to you from most to least.*

Name of Activity	Year(s) of Participation	Position Held	Sponsoring Organization

4. Choose one of the activities you listed above and describe the influence it has had on your life.

Student Application (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

► **PART III. SHORT ESSAYS**

Please use only the space allotted for your answers.

1. How did you spend summer 2008?

2. What do you enjoy learning about and why?

3. Discuss how your favorite place illustrates an aspect of your personality.

Student Application (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

4. Jack Kent Cooke was an inspirational mentor who encouraged others to never give up in the face of adversity. Describe a time when you encountered a challenge and how you handled it.

5. What are your current educational and career goals?

► PART IV. TEST INFORMATION

College Entrance Exams:

Please report SAT Reasoning Test (SAT) and/or ACT test (ACT) information below. Submit **three** copies (including one official copy) of score reports. (Mark N/A if you have not taken any out-of-grade-level testing.)

SAT date taken _____ SAT Critical Reading score _____ SAT Math score _____ SAT Writing score _____

ACT date taken _____ ACT English score _____ ACT Math score _____

ACT Reading score _____ ACT Science score _____ ACT Composite score _____

Other Standardized Tests:

Please list the name(s), date(s), and score(s) of any other standardized tests taken recently (score reports from these tests will be submitted by the school as a part of the School Report, along with report cards).

1. Test Name _____ Date taken _____

Math percentile score _____ Verbal percentile score _____ Composite percentile score _____

2. Test Name _____ Date taken _____

Math percentile score _____ Verbal percentile score _____ Composite percentile score _____

3. Test Name _____ Date taken _____

Math percentile score _____ Verbal percentile score _____ Composite percentile score _____

Student Application

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

► PART V. TYPED ESSAY

Please include one typed, double-spaced essay, 500 words or less, in response to **one** of the four topics below. Indicate which essay topic you have chosen at the top of your page. Keep in mind that this essay should help the scholarship selection committee get to know you better. You should use this section to reveal more about your character, leadership abilities, interests, creativity, goals, and other traits that make you a unique person. Please do not submit an essay written for school or other purposes.

TOPICS (choose only one):

1. Indicate a quote, a character in fiction, a historical figure or event, a scientific theory, or creative work (as in art, music, etc.) that has had a significant influence on you and describe that influence.
2. What change(s) would you want to bring to your community? Whom would you involve? What would you hope to achieve?
3. Imagine you had the opportunity to do a one-year research project or experiment. What kind of project would you design and what would you hope to learn?
4. Please write on a matter of importance to you. Any topic, and any form of written expression, is acceptable.

► PART VI. CERTIFICATION

- I certify that all my application answers and essay responses are accurate.
- I certify that all my responses are my own work and generated solely for the purpose of applying to the Young Scholars Program.
- I understand that any work submitted that is not accurate, original, and honest may result in my dismissal from the Young Scholars Program.

Applicant's Signature (required) _____

Date _____

Parent/Guardian Form—Receipt Deadline: April 27, 2009

Think Big. Work Hard. Achieve.

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

► **INSTRUCTIONS**

As specified in the Application Guidelines, please write legibly using blue or black ink and use only the space allotted for your answers. See the Application Guidelines for other essential instructions.

► **PART I. MOTHER/GUARDIAN INFORMATION (BIOLOGICAL OR ADOPTIVE)**

Name First _____ Last _____ Dr. Mrs. Ms. Mr.

Address (if different from applicant) _____

Home phone _____ Cellular phone _____

Email address _____ Primary language _____

Work phone _____ Job title _____

Employer _____ # of years with current employer _____

Check if: unemployed _____ # of years unemployed _____

Check if: self-employed _____ # of years self-employed _____

Check if: on disability _____ # of years on disability _____

Check if: retired _____ # of years retired _____

Highest level of education: grade school some high school high school diploma some college
 bachelor's degree completed some prof./grad. school prof./grad. degree completed

Bachelor's degree Major _____ College/University Name & Location _____

Prof./Grad. degree Field of Study _____ College/University Name & Location _____

STEP PARENT (IF APPLICABLE)

Name First _____ Last _____ Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Job title _____ Work phone _____

Employer _____ # of years with current employer _____

Check if: unemployed _____ # of years unemployed _____

Check if: self-employed _____ # of years self-employed _____

Check if: on disability _____ # of years on disability _____

Check if: retired _____ # of years retired _____

Highest level of education: grade school some high school high school diploma some college
 bachelor's degree completed some prof./grad. school prof./grad. degree completed

Bachelor's degree Major _____ College/University Name & Location _____

Prof./Grad. degree Field of Study _____ College/University Name & Location _____

Parent/Guardian Form (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

▶ PART II. FATHER/GUARDIAN INFORMATION (BIOLOGICAL OR ADOPTIVE)

Name First _____ Last _____ Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Address (if different from applicant) _____

Home phone _____ Cellular phone _____

Email address _____ Primary language _____

Work phone _____ Job title _____

Employer _____ # of years with current employer _____

Check if: unemployed # of years unemployed _____

Check if: self-employed # of years self-employed _____

Check if: on disability # of years on disability _____

Check if: retired # of years retired _____

Highest level of education: grade school some high school high school diploma some college
 bachelor's degree completed some prof./grad. school prof./grad. degree completed

Bachelor's degree Major _____ College/University Name & Location _____

Prof./Grad. degree Field of Study _____ College/University Name & Location _____

STEPARENT (IF APPLICABLE)

Name First _____ Last _____ Dr. Mrs. Ms. Mr.

Job title _____ Work phone _____

Employer _____ # of years with current employer _____

Check if: unemployed # of years unemployed _____

Check if: self-employed # of years self-employed _____

Check if: on disability # of years on disability _____

Check if: retired # of years retired _____

Highest level of education: grade school some high school high school diploma some college
 bachelor's degree completed some prof./grad. school prof./grad. degree completed

Bachelor's degree Major _____ College/University Name & Location _____

Prof./Grad. degree Field of Study _____ College/University Name & Location _____

Parent/Guardian Form (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

▶ PART III. FAMILY INFORMATION

Please check the appropriate boxes below. *If you check a box with an * (asterisk), please provide additional information in the space provided below.*

Mother is: living deceased

Father is: living deceased

Parents are currently:

married separated other* _____

unmarried divorced

If divorced, please indicate who has legal custody of the applicant:

mother father joint other* _____

If parent(s)/guardian(s) are living apart, with whom does the applicant live? _____

If parent(s)/guardian(s) are divorced, how much time does the applicant spend with the noncustodial parent/guardian per month? _____

*Additional information (if applicable): _____

List members of your household in the table below. For "other," include only those household members claimed as a dependent on your federal taxes [2008 IRS Form 1040 line 6c or 1040A line 6c]. If more space is needed to complete this chart, please attach a separate sheet.

Full name of household member	Age
Parent/Guardian	
Parent/Guardian/Stepparent	
Applicant	
Other	
Other	
Other	
Other	

Parent/Guardian Form (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

► PART IV. QUESTIONS

1. Please list up to three of your child's academic or personal strengths:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

2. Please describe how you are involved in supporting your child's learning.

3. Young Scholars participate in a variety of well-supervised residential summer programs, including many that are away from home. How likely are you to give permission for your child to attend such a program?

- not likely somewhat unlikely not sure somewhat likely very likely

Comments: _____

4. My/our child has received support for social, emotional, or behavioral difficulties (e.g., counseling, medication, school-based support).

- Yes No

If "yes," please attach a note of explanation.

5. My/our child is currently receiving special education services from his/her school:

- Yes No

If "yes," please specify by checking the appropriate box below and attach a note of explanation.

- Identified learning disabled (e.g., dyslexia, processing difficulties)
- ADHD/ADD
- Asperger's Disorder
- Has accommodations under ADA Section 504

6. My/our child has been home-schooled.

- Yes No

If "yes," please attach a note explaining your decision and indicating the period home-schooled (e.g., fourth through sixth grade).

Parent/Guardian Form

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

7. My/our child has skipped a year of school.

Yes No

If "yes," please attach a note explaining what year was skipped and why.

8. My/our child has repeated a year of school.

Yes No

If "yes," please attach a note explaining what year was repeated and why.

9. My/our child has been dismissed, suspended, placed on probation, or received other serious disciplinary action from school.

Yes No

If "yes," please attach a note explaining the situation.

10. Please indicate one choice specifying how you first learned about the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Young Scholars Program:

Your child*

Your child's teacher or school

Friend

Radio

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation website

Talent Center Outreach Specialist

Letter from Talent Center

Young Scholars Program video

Advertisement**

Newspaper article**

Other website**

Scholarship search engine**

Other**

**If your child told you about the Young Scholars Program, please also indicate how your child first learned about the program.*

***Please specify _____*

► PART V. CERTIFICATION

I/we certify that all my/our responses are accurate.

I/we certify that all my/our child's responses on the Student Application are his/her own work and generated solely for the purpose of applying to the Young Scholars Program.

I/we understand that any work submitted that is not accurate, original, and honest may result in my/our child's dismissal from the Young Scholars Program.

Custodial Parent's/Guardian's Signature (required)

Date

Other Custodial Parent's/Guardian's/Stepparent's Signature (required if applicable)

Date

Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form— Receipt Deadline: April 27, 2009

Think Big. Work Hard. Achieve.

Applicant name _____
Last First

► **INSTRUCTIONS**

- As specified in the Application Guidelines, please write legibly using blue or black ink and use only the space allotted for your answers. See the Application Guidelines for other essential instructions.
- Use the information from your 2008 federal income tax returns to answer the questions where indicated.
- Do not leave fields blank. If a value is zero, enter "0." Round all figures to the nearest dollar.
- Attach a copy of your 2008 federal tax form(s), including W-2 form(s), schedules, and attachments.
- If the applicant was required to file a 2008 federal tax return, also attach a copy of his/her W-2 form(s), schedules, and attachments.
- You may include a signed note to explain any special financial circumstances relevant to your income information (e.g., business losses, extraordinary family medical expenses, expenses for disabled children).

The student's biological or adoptive custodial parent(s)/guardian(s) (with whom the student resides full time or a greater portion of the time), should complete this form. If the custodial parents/guardians remain married to one another, the financial information provided on this form should be the combined amount for the custodial parents/guardians. If the custodial parent/guardian has remarried, the stepparent's financial information should be included on this form; please note that whenever this form uses "you/your" or "parent(s)/guardian(s)," it also includes the stepparent. If there is a noncustodial parent/guardian, please refer to the instructions on the Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form.

- Check here if you were NOT required to file a federal tax return for 2008. In this case, please complete the form as best as possible and attach a statement from the employer(s) listing all income and benefits for the prior year.**
- Check here if you live abroad and did not file U.S. taxes. In this case, please complete the form as best as possible and attach a statement (in English or a certified translation into English) from each parent's/guardian's employer listing all income and benefits for the prior year.**

► **2008-09 PRIVATE/PAROCHIAL SCHOOL AND COLLEGE TUITION**

Please complete the chart below indicating the total 2008-09 private/parochial school and college tuition costs for each member of your household (including anyone claimed as a dependent on your federal taxes [2008 IRS Form 1040 line 6c or 1040A line 6c], AND others living in the household who receive more than half of their financial support from you during the 2008-09 academic year). Please mark N/A where appropriate.

Full name of household member	School/College name	Grade/year in school/college	Total cost of tuition for 2008-09	Specify amount of tuition paid for by:			
				Parent(s)/guardian(s)	Financial aid	Loans	Other*

*Please name other source(s) of tuition funds (e.g., friend or relative name and relationship or organization):

I/We expect the tuition amounts listed above to change significantly for the 2009-10 academic year.

- Yes No

If "yes," please attach a note of explanation.

Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

► SCHOLARSHIPS (UNRELATED TO PRIVATE/PAROCHIAL SCHOOL TUITION)

Please complete the chart below indicating the amount of scholarships larger than \$250 that the applicant (or you on behalf of the applicant) has received in the past two years to pay for expenses (e.g., summer programs, camp, lessons, tutoring) *not including scholarships for private/parochial school tuition*. Include payments made directly to the providers. Please mark N/A where appropriate. If more space is needed to complete this chart, please attach a separate sheet.

Name of scholarship provider	Opportunity paid for	Amount awarded

► MONETARY GIFTS (UNRELATED TO PRIVATE/PAROCHIAL SCHOOL TUITION)

Please complete the chart below indicating the amount gifted (including monetary gifts from abroad) larger than \$250 that the applicant (or you on behalf of the applicant) has received in the past two years *not including gifts for private/parochial school tuition*. Include payments made directly to the providers. Please mark N/A where appropriate. If more space is needed to complete this chart, please attach a separate sheet.

Name of person and relationship to the applicant, providing the funds	Opportunity paid for	Amount gifted

► PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) 2008 INCOME AND BENEFITS

1 \$ _____ **Parent(s)/guardian(s) Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)**
2008 IRS Form 1040 line 37; 1040A line 21; 1040EZ line 4

2 \$ _____ **Parent(s)/guardian(s) untaxed income**
Complete all applicable fields below.

- \$ _____ Cash support, gifts received, or money paid on your behalf (*from relatives or nonrelatives*) larger than \$250 (*use total from Monetary Gifts chart above*)
- \$ _____ Social Security benefits
- \$ _____ Disability benefits
- \$ _____ Housing, food, and other living allowances (*excluding rent subsidies for low-income housing*) paid on your behalf or to you as a member of the military or clergy, (*including cash payments and cash value of benefits*), OR contributions to your household income provided by other nondependent members
- \$ _____ Welfare benefits, veterans benefits, workers compensation
- \$ _____ Household expenses and any money paid by separated or divorced spouse in lieu of child support
- \$ _____ Income earned abroad (*Foreign Income Exclusion, IRS Form 2555, or 2555EZ*)

3 \$ _____ **Child support received by parent(s)/guardian(s), if any**
List yearly, not monthly, amount.

Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

- 4 \$ _____ **Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans**
W-2 Forms, box 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, H, and S
Include untaxed payments to 401(k) and 403(b) plans.
- 5 \$ _____ **Contributions to pre-tax dependent care accounts**
W-2 Forms, box 10
- 6 \$ _____ **Parent(s)/guardian(s) federal income tax paid**
2008 IRS Form 1040 line 61; 1040A line 37; 1040EZ line 11
Do not copy the amount of "federal income tax withheld" from a W-2 Form.
- 7 \$ _____ **Child support paid by parent(s)/guardian(s), if any**
List yearly, not monthly, amount.
- 8 \$ _____ **Child tax credit claimed on federal taxes**
2008 IRS Form 1040 line 66 or 1040A line 41; 1040EZ not applicable
- 9 \$ _____ **Nonreimbursed medical or dental expenses claimed on federal taxes**
2008 IRS Form 1040, Schedule A, line 4; Forms 1040A and 1040EZ not applicable
- 10 _____ **Number of dependents in college**
Count each dependent who is a full-time undergraduate student.

► **PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) ASSETS**

If you have assets jointly owned with other individuals, include only the portion of the assets that you own.

- 11 \$ _____ **Parent(s)/guardian(s) cash, savings, and checking account balances (as of today)**
Include the total balance for all accounts.
- 12 \$ _____ **Parent(s)/guardian(s) investment equity (as of today)**
Include investments owned by the parent(s)/guardian(s) and not included in the student's financial information section.
For example, include: college savings plans, trusts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, bonds, education IRAs, and Uniform Gifts to Minors accounts.
Do not include: the value of life insurance policies, retirement plans, savings or checking accounts, or prepaid tuition plans, or investments held in student's name.
- 13 \$ _____ **Parent(s)/guardian(s) home equity (as of today)**
If parent(s)/guardian(s) own a home, include equity of the primary residence. (Current assessed value minus debt equals equity.) Complete all fields below.
Current assessed value of home \$ _____
Home debt \$ _____
Year purchased home _____
Purchase price \$ _____
- 14 \$ _____ **Parent(s)/guardian(s) investment real estate equity (apart from main residence) (as of today)**
Include the equity of any real estate owned by the parent(s)/guardian(s) and not included in the student's financial information section. (Current assessed value minus debt equals equity.) Complete all fields below.
Current assessed value of real estate \$ _____
Real estate debt \$ _____
Year purchased real estate _____
Purchase price \$ _____

Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form (continued)

Applicant name _____
Last First

15 \$ _____ **Parent(s)/guardian(s) business and/or farm equity (as of today)**
If self-employed, please complete the Supplemental Self-Employment Form and note 2008 business equity total from question 7 here.

16 \$ _____ **Parent(s)/guardian(s) retirement savings or pension assets (as of today)**
Include current value of retirement savings, such as IRA, Keogh, 401(k), 403(b), or other retirement or pension plans.

▶ STUDENT'S 2008 INCOME AND BENEFITS

1 \$ _____ **Student's Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)**
2008 IRS Form 1040 line 37; 1040A line 21; 1040EZ line 4

2 \$ _____ **Student's untaxed income**
Complete all applicable fields below.

- \$ _____ Cash support, gifts received, or money paid on your behalf (*from relatives or nonrelatives*) larger than \$250 (*do not include those amounts counted in parent/guardian untaxed income*)
- \$ _____ Social Security benefits
- \$ _____ Welfare benefits, veterans benefits, workers compensation

▶ STUDENT'S ASSETS

If the student has assets jointly owned with other individuals, include only the portion of the assets that the student owns.

3 \$ _____ **Student's cash, savings, and checking account balances (as of today)**
Include the total balance for all accounts.

4 \$ _____ **Student's investment equity (as of today)**
Include investments owned by the student and not included in the parent(s)/guardian(s) financial information section.

For example, include: real estate equity, business and/or farm equity, college savings plans, trusts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, bonds, education IRAs, and Uniform Gifts to Minors accounts.

Do not include: the value of life insurance policies, retirement plans, savings or checking accounts, or prepaid tuition plans, or investments held in student's name.

▶ CERTIFICATION

- I/we certify that all information provided on this Financial Form is accurate to the best of my/our knowledge.
- I/we understand that any work submitted that is not accurate, original, and honest may result in my/our child's dismissal from the Young Scholar Program.

Custodial Parent's/Guardian's Signature (required)

Date

Other Custodial Parent's/Guardian's/Stepparent's Signature (required if applicable)

Date

Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form – Receipt Deadline: April 27, 2009

Applicant name _____
Last First

If applicable, the noncustodial biological or adoptive parent/guardian should complete this form. If the noncustodial parent/guardian has remarried, the stepparent's financial information should be included on this form; please note that whenever this form uses "you/your" or "parent(s)/guardian(s)," it also includes the stepparent.

This form may be submitted separately from the rest of the application. If submitting separately, the form and attachments **MUST BE RECEIVED** at the address below by **April 27, 2009** in order for the student's application to be considered eligible.

**Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
Young Scholars Program
301 ACT Drive, PO Box 4030
Iowa City, IA 52243
1-800-498-6478 (for use on overnight delivery forms)**

► INSTRUCTIONS

- If you do not have a copy of the Application Guidelines, please download them from the Foundation's website*.
 - As specified in the Application Guidelines, please write legibly using blue or black ink and use only the space allotted for your answers. See the Application Guidelines for other essential instructions.
 - Use the information from your 2008 federal income tax returns to answer the questions where indicated.
 - Do not leave fields blank. If a value is zero, enter "0." Round all figures to the nearest dollar.
 - Please complete this form and attach a copy of your 2008 tax form(s) (including W-2 forms, schedules, and attachments).
 - Do not include income or assets belonging to the applicant on this form; that information is requested on the Custodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form.
 - You may include a signed note to explain any special financial circumstances relevant to your income information (e.g., business losses, extraordinary family medical expenses, expenses for disabled children).
- Check here if you were NOT required to file a federal tax return for 2008. In this case, please complete the form as best as possible and attach a statement from the employer(s) listing all income and benefits for the prior year.**
- Check here if you live abroad and did not file U.S. taxes. In this case, please complete the form as best as possible and attach a statement (in English or a certified translation into English) from each noncustodial parent's/guardian's employer listing all income and benefits for the prior year.**

► NONCUSTODIAL PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____
Last First Dr. Mr. Mrs. Ms.

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Work or cellular phone _____

Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

List members of your household in the table below. For "other," include only those household members claimed as a dependent on your federal taxes [2008 IRS Form 1040 line 6c or 1040A line 6c]. Do NOT include the applicant, even if you claim him/her as a dependent. If more space is needed to complete this chart please attach a separate sheet.

Full name of household member	Age
Noncustodial Parent/Guardian	
Noncustodial Parent/Guardian/Stepparent	
Other	
Other	
Other	

► 2008-09 PRIVATE/PAROCHIAL SCHOOL AND COLLEGE TUITION

Please complete the chart below indicating the total 2008-09 private/parochial and college tuition costs for each member of your household (including anyone claimed as a dependent on your federal taxes [2008 IRS Form 1040 line 6c or 1040A line 6c], AND others living in the household who receive more than half of their financial support from you during the 2008-09 academic year). Do NOT include the applicant, even if you claim him/her as a dependent.

Full name of household member	School/College name	Grade/year in school/college	Total cost of tuition for 2008-09	Specify amount of tuition paid for by:			
				Noncustodial Parent(s)/guardian(s)	Financial aid	Loans	Other*

*Please name other source(s) of tuition funds (e.g., friend or relative name and relationship or organization):

I/We expect the tuition amounts listed above to change significantly for the 2009-10 academic year.

Yes No

If "yes," please attach a note of explanation.

► NONCUSTODIAL PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) 2008 INCOME AND BENEFITS

1 \$ _____ **Noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) Adjusted Gross Income (AGI)**
2008 IRS Form 1040 line 37; 1040A line 21; 1040EZ line 4

2 \$ _____ **Noncustodial Parent(s)/guardian(s) untaxed income**
Complete all applicable fields below.

- \$ _____ Cash support, gifts received, or money paid on your behalf (*from relatives or nonrelatives*) larger than \$250
- \$ _____ Social Security benefits
- \$ _____ Disability benefits

Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

<p>3 \$ _____</p> <p>4 \$ _____</p> <p>5 \$ _____</p> <p>6 \$ _____</p> <p>7 \$ _____</p> <p>8 \$ _____</p> <p>9 \$ _____</p> <p>10 \$ _____</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$ _____ Housing, food, and other living allowances (<i>excluding rent subsidies for low-income housing</i>) paid on your behalf or to you as a member of the military or clergy, (<i>including cash payments and cash value of benefits</i>), OR contributions to your household income provided by other nondependent members ▪ \$ _____ Welfare benefits, veterans benefits, workers compensation ▪ \$ _____ Household expenses and any money paid by separated or divorced spouse in lieu of child support ▪ \$ _____ Income earned abroad (<i>Foreign Income Exclusion, IRS Form 2555, or 2555EZ</i>) <p>Child support received by noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s), if any List yearly, not monthly, amount.</p> <p>Payments to tax-deferred pension and savings plans W-2 Forms, box 12a through 12d, codes D, E, F, H, and S Include untaxed payments to 401(k) and 403(b) plans.</p> <p>Contributions to pre-tax dependent care accounts W-2 Forms, box 10</p> <p>Noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) federal income tax paid 2008 IRS Form 1040 line 61; 1040A line 37; 1040EZ line 11 <i>Do not copy the amount of "federal income tax withheld" from a W-2 Form.</i></p> <p>Child support paid by noncustodial parent/guardian, if any List yearly, not monthly, amount.</p> <p>Child tax credit claimed on federal taxes 2008 IRS Form 1040 line 66 or 1040A line 41; 1040EZ not applicable</p> <p>Nonreimbursed medical or dental expenses claimed on federal taxes 2008 IRS Form 1040, Schedule A, line 4; Forms 1040A and 1040EZ not applicable</p> <p>Number of dependents in college Count each dependent who is a full-time undergraduate student.</p>
<p>► NONCUSTODIAL PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) ASSETS</p> <p>List all assets owned by noncustodial parent/guardian, or assets owned jointly with stepparent. If assets are owned jointly with others (not spouse), include only the portion of the assets that the noncustodial parent(s) guardian(s) and/or stepparent own(s).</p>	
<p>11 \$ _____</p> <p>12 \$ _____</p>	<p>Noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) cash, savings, and checking account balances (as of today) Include the total balance for all accounts.</p> <p>Noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) investment equity (as of today) For example, include: college savings plans, trusts, money market funds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit, stocks, bonds, education IRAs, and Uniform Gifts to Minors accounts. Do not include: the value of life insurance policies, retirement plans, savings or checking accounts, or prepaid tuition plans, or investments held in student's name.</p>

Noncustodial Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Financial Form

Applicant name _____
Last First

13 \$ _____

Noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) home equity (as of today)

If noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) own a home, include equity of the primary residence. (Current assessed value minus debt equals equity.) Complete all fields below.

Current assessed value of home \$ _____

Home debt \$ _____

Year purchased home _____

Purchase price \$ _____

14 \$ _____

Noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) investment real estate equity (apart from main residence) (as of today)

(Current assessed value minus debt equals equity.) Complete all fields below.

Current assessed value of investment real estate \$ _____

Investment real estate debt \$ _____

Year purchased investment real estate _____

Purchase price \$ _____

15 \$ _____

Noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) business and/or farm equity (as of today)

If self-employed, please complete the Supplemental Self-Employment Form and note 2008 business equity total from question 7 here.

16 \$ _____

Noncustodial parent(s)/guardian(s) retirement savings or pension assets (as of today)

Include current value of retirement savings, such as IRA, Keogh, 401(k), 403(b), or other retirement or pension plans.

► **CERTIFICATION**

- I/we certify that all information provided on this Financial Form is accurate to the best of my/our knowledge.
- I/we understand that any work submitted that is not accurate, original, and honest may result in my/our child's dismissal from the Young Scholars Program.

Noncustodial Parent's/Guardian's Signature (required)

Date

Stepparent's Signature (required if applicable)

Date

School Report

- The application receipt deadline is April 27, 2009

Think Big. Work Hard. Achieve.

Applicant name _____
Last First

► **TO THE APPLICANT:**

If you are currently being home-schooled, this form is not required.

After a parent/guardian completes the section below, give this form to a principal, head of school, or guidance counselor and request that he/she return the completed form to you in a sealed, signed envelope so that you may submit it with your complete application packet. We accept only one School Report per applicant.

► **TO THE PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S):**

Please request that the administrator completing this form include the following materials in the signed, sealed envelope:

- Most recent standardized test score reports (5th, 6th, or 7th grade)
- Report cards, 6th grade to April 1, 2009

Please read and sign the statement below.

I waive my right to read the completed School Report and give the school permission to disclose all requested records, including academic and disciplinary information.

Parent's/Guardian's Name (required)

Parent's/Guardian's Signature (required)

Date

► **TO THE PRINCIPAL/HEAD OF SCHOOL/GUIDANCE COUNSELOR:**

Through its Young Scholars Program, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation selects high-achieving youth with financial need and provides them with extensive, individualized educational opportunities that develop their talents and abilities throughout high school. Candidates apply in the 7th grade. The Foundation reviews each application individually, with the assistance of a panel of national experts. The Foundation selects Young Scholars using the criteria below. While all these criteria are important, the Foundation pays particular attention to the first two.

- **Academic ability and high achievement:** Strong academic record, academic awards and honors, and a substantive assessment by a teacher providing a confidential letter of recommendation. We consider grades (typically a GPA above 3.65, or mostly 'As'), achievement test scores, commitment to learning, and work ethic. Exceptions for GPA may be considered for applicants with unique talents or learning differences.
- **Unmet financial need:** Limited family income and insufficient funds to cover most or all education-related expenses.
- **Will to succeed:** Determination and perseverance in the face of challenges, and success in other pursuits.
- **Leadership and public service:** Initiative on behalf of others, such as participation in volunteer, community, and school-related activities.
- **Critical-thinking ability:** Answers to application questions that demonstrate critical-thinking.
- **Appreciation for or participation in the arts and humanities:** Appreciation of, involvement in, or study of music, art, literature, or similar fields.

We appreciate your cooperation in completing this form. Your observations are an important part of the student's application. Your recommendation will be read only by the Foundation's selection committee and will not be shared with the student or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s).

Please complete this recommendation form and return it, along with the standardized test scores and report cards, to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature written across the seal. Please allow sufficient time for the applicant to submit it with the completed application package by the April 27, 2009 receipt deadline. If you would prefer to mail your recommendation directly, please mail all forms to:

**Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
Young Scholars Program
301 ACT Drive, PO Box 4030
Iowa City, IA 52243**

1-800-498-6478 (for use on overnight delivery forms)

School Report (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

How well do you know the student academically? Very well Somewhat Little or not at all

As a person? Very well Somewhat Little or not at all

Please include these materials with this recommendation form:

- Most recent standardized test score reports (5th, 6th, or 7th grade)
- Report cards, 6th grade to April 1, 2008

The student's most recent standardized test scores place them in the top 10% of the school. Yes No

The student's most recent standardized test scores place them in the top 10% of the state. Yes No

What percent of your students make the honor roll? _____ %

Where does this student rank in his/her grade level? (Please estimate if your school does not rank.)

- Top 1% Top 5% Top 10% Top 25% Other

How many students are in the entire 7th grade?

Are students placed in classes/subjects according to ability? Yes No

If "yes," please tell us in which level the applicant is placed for each subject.

If the student is not, or has not been, in good academic standing, please explain.

Has the student ever been dismissed, suspended, placed on probation, or received other serious disciplinary action?

- Yes No

If "yes," please attach a separate note of explanation.

Has the student ever withdrawn from school voluntarily for an extended period of time for reasons other than health?

- Yes No

If "yes," please attach a separate note of explanation.

Please comment on the following:

1. What are the first three words that come to mind to describe this student?

a. _____ b. _____ c. _____

2. Please describe this student's character, citizenship, and contributions to your school community.

School Report

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

3. Please describe the parent(s)/guardian(s)' relationship with and their expectations of the school.

4. Please add any additional information that will give us a more complete picture of the student.

► **OVERALL EVALUATION**

	One of the Top Few I Have Ever Encountered	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Basis for Judgment
As a student	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
As a person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name Last _____ First _____

Position/Title _____ Email address _____

School name _____ School is New Leaders for New Schools (NLNS) Yes No

School address _____

Work phone () _____

School type Charter Magnet Parochial Private/Independent Public

I certify that all information provided on this School Report is accurate.

Signature (required) _____

Date _____

Teacher Recommendation

- The application receipt deadline is April 27, 2009

Applicant name

Last

First

► TO THE APPLICANT:

After a parent/guardian completes the section below, give this form to one of your 7th grade language arts, math, social studies, or science teachers and request that he/she return the completed form to you in a sealed, signed envelope so that you may submit it with your complete application packet. We accept only one Teacher Recommendation form per applicant.

► TO THE PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S):

Please read and sign the statement below.

I waive my right to read the completed Teacher Recommendation and give the teacher permission to disclose all requested information.

Parent's/Guardian's Name (required)

Parent's/Guardian's Signature (required)

Date

► TO THE 7TH GRADE TEACHER:

Through its Young Scholars Program, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation selects high-achieving youth with financial need and provides them with extensive, individualized educational opportunities that develop their talents and abilities throughout high school. Candidates apply in the 7th grade. The Foundation reviews each application individually, with the assistance of a panel of national experts. The Foundation selects Young Scholars using the criteria below. While all these criteria are important, the Foundation pays particular attention to the first two.

- **Academic ability and high achievement:** Strong academic record, academic awards and honors, and a substantive assessment by a teacher providing a confidential letter of recommendation. We consider grades (typically a GPA above 3.65, or mostly 'As'), achievement test scores, commitment to learning, and work ethic. Exceptions for GPA may be considered for applicants with unique talents or learning differences.
- **Unmet financial need:** Limited family income and insufficient funds to cover most or all education-related expenses.
- **Will to succeed:** Determination and perseverance in the face of challenges, and success in other pursuits.
- **Leadership and public service:** Initiative on behalf of others, such as participation in volunteer, community, and school-related activities.
- **Critical-thinking ability:** Answers to application questions that demonstrate critical-thinking.
- **Appreciation for or participation in the arts and humanities:** Appreciation of, involvement in, or study of music, art, literature, or similar fields.

We appreciate your cooperation in completing this form. Your observations are an important part of the student's application. Your recommendation will be read only by the Foundation's selection committee and will not be shared with the student or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s).

Please complete this recommendation form and return it to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature written across the seal. Please allow sufficient time for the applicant to submit it with the completed application package by the April 27, 2009 receipt deadline. If you would prefer to mail your recommendation directly, please mail all forms to:

**Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
Young Scholars Program
301 ACT Drive, PO Box 4030
Iowa City, IA 52243**

1-800-498-6478 (for use on overnight delivery forms)

Teacher Recommendation (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

PLEASE ASSESS THIS APPLICANT AS COMPARED WITH HIS/HER PEERS:

	One of the Top Few I Have Ever Encountered	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Basis for Judgment
PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS					
Peer relations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assumption of responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Citizenship/conduct	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trustworthiness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social/emotional maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STUDY HABITS					
Ability to work independently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to work with others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pattern of completing work on time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attention span	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organization/care of materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Work ethic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCHOOL PERFORMANCE					
Reading skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Writing skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Math skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Oral communication skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Academic promise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Would you recommend this student for an honors course? Yes No

Has outside help (e.g., tutoring, mentoring, psychological services) been recommended? Yes No

Has outside help been given? Yes No

Teacher Recommendation (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

Please comment on the following:

1. What are the first three words that come to mind to describe this student?

a. _____ b. _____ c. _____

2. Student's strengths.

3. Student's weaknesses.

4. Student's character, citizenship, and contributions to your school community.

5. Student's ability to accept advice or criticism.

6. Parental expectations, support, and attitude toward student and school.

Teacher Recommendation

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

7. Learning disabilities or special accommodations (including amount of teacher time and outside help required).

8. Please add any additional information that will give us a more complete picture of the student.

► **OVERALL EVALUATION**

	One of the Top Few I Have Ever Encountered	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Basis for Judgment
As a student	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
As a person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name Last _____ First _____

Position/Title _____

School _____

Email address _____ Work phone () _____

Number of years of teaching experience _____

I certify that all information provided on this Teacher Recommendation is accurate.

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

Personal Recommendation (optional)

- The application receipt deadline is April 27, 2009

Applicant name

Last

First

► TO THE APPLICANT:

If you are currently being home-schooled, this form is required.

After a parent/guardian completes the section below, give this form to an adult who knows you personally (not a parent and preferably not a relative), such as a mentor; coach; music, dance, drama, or art instructor; teacher (past or present); supervisor; employer; scout leader; or camp counselor. Request that the recommender return the completed form to you in a sealed, signed envelope so that you may submit it with your complete application packet. We will only accept one Personal Recommendation form per applicant.

► TO THE PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S):

Please read and sign the statement below.

I waive my right to read the completed Personal Recommendation and give the recommender permission to disclose all requested information.

Parent's/Guardian's Name (required)

Parent's/Guardian's Signature (required)

Date

► TO THE RECOMMENDER:

Through its Young Scholars Program, the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation selects high-achieving youth with financial need and provides them with extensive, individualized educational opportunities that develop their talents and abilities throughout high school. Candidates apply in the 7th grade. The Foundation reviews each application individually, with the assistance of a panel of national experts. The Foundation selects Young Scholars using the criteria below. While all these criteria are important, the Foundation pays particular attention to the first two.

- **Academic ability and high achievement:** Strong academic record, academic awards and honors, and a substantive assessment by a teacher providing a confidential letter of recommendation. We consider grades (typically a GPA above 3.65, or mostly 'As'), achievement test scores, commitment to learning, and work ethic. Exceptions for GPA may be considered for applicants with unique talents or learning differences.
- **Unmet financial need:** Limited family income and insufficient funds to cover most or all education-related expenses.
- **Will to succeed:** Determination and perseverance in the face of challenges, and success in other pursuits.
- **Leadership and public service:** Initiative on behalf of others, such as participation in volunteer, community, and school-related activities.
- **Critical-thinking ability:** Answers to application questions that demonstrate critical-thinking.
- **Appreciation for or participation in the arts and humanities:** Appreciation of, involvement in, or study of music, art, literature, or similar fields.

We appreciate your cooperation in completing this form. Your observations are an important part of the student's application. Your recommendation will be read only by the Foundation's selection committee and will not be shared with the student or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s).

Please complete this recommendation form and return it to the applicant in a sealed envelope with your signature written across the seal. Please allow sufficient time for the applicant to submit it with the completed application package by the April 27, 2009 receipt deadline. If you would prefer to mail your recommendation directly, please mail all forms to:

**Jack Kent Cooke Foundation
Young Scholars Program
301 ACT Drive, PO Box 4030
Iowa City, IA 52243**

1-800-498-6478 (for use on overnight delivery forms)

Personal Recommendation (optional) (continued)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

PLEASE ASSESS THIS APPLICANT AS COMPARED WITH HIS/HER PEERS:

	One of the Top Few I Have Ever Encountered	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Basis for Judgment
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Integrity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Honesty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to handle rules	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self-esteem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self-discipline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Independence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Peer compatibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Concern for others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warmth of personality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotional stability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reaction to setbacks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resiliency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sense of humor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you consider the applicant remarkably strong or notably weak in any of the above areas, please elaborate.

Please comment on the following:

1. What are the first three words that come to mind to describe this applicant?

a. _____ b. _____ c. _____

Personal Recommendation (optional)

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

2. Please tell us how long and in what capacity you have known the applicant.

3. Please comment on the applicant's personal qualities. What makes this person special?

4. In the applicant's area of special interest, please tell us as specifically as you can the degree of interest demonstrated and the degree of proficiency achieved.

► **OVERALL TALENT EVALUATION**

	One of the Top Few I Have Ever Encountered	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Basis for Judgment
As a student	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
As a person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Name Last _____ First _____

Position/Title _____

Email address _____ Work phone (_____) _____

I certify that all information provided on this Personal Recommendation is accurate.

Signature (required) _____ Date _____

Survey Form—Receipt Deadline: April 27, 2009

Applicant name Last _____ First _____

► INSTRUCTIONS

As specified in the Application Guidelines, please write legibly using blue or black ink and use only the space allotted for your answers. See the Application Guidelines for other essential instructions. **This form will be detached from your application and will not be seen by the scholarship selection committee at any stage of the deliberations.**

► PART I. OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS AND THE JACK KENT COOKE FOUNDATION

If you have a sibling or other close family member that has ever applied, is currently applying, or has been accepted into any of the Foundation's scholarship programs (Young Scholars, Undergraduate-Transfer, or Graduate Programs), please provide the name of the person, the program, and his/her status in the program. If not, please mark N/A.

Although we do not require the information below to consider your application, we ask all applicants to complete the race and ethnicity information so that we can assess our efforts to encourage students of all backgrounds to apply to the Young Scholars Program.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, creed, color, sex, age, physical or mental disabilities, sexual orientation, or national origin. We encourage applications from all qualified candidates.

► PART II. RACE AND ETHNICITY

The categories below provide descriptions of race and ethnicity. Please check one box that best describes you. If you check the "Multiracial" box please further specify by selecting at least two of the additional descriptors.

- African American or Black
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander
- Hispanic or Latino
- White (including Middle Eastern)
- Multiracial - please check all that apply:
 - African American or Black
 - American Indian or Alaska Native
 - Asian, Asian American, or Pacific Islander
 - Hispanic or Latino
 - White (including Middle Eastern)