

2012 Sara A. Mazak Information Technology Scholarship



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Ohio Association

Today's students. Tomorrow's business professionals.

Scholarship funded by contributions from family, friends, and colleagues of former Ohio Department of Education Information Technology Consultant Sara A. Mazak.

2012 Sara A. Mazak Information Technology Scholarship Guidelines

Purpose of Scholarship

The Sara A. Mazak Information Technology Scholarship was established to reward BPA members who continue their career-technical studies in Information Technology at a two- or four-year college or university.

Eligibility

Business Professionals of America, Ohio Association members enrolled in an Information Technology program of study and who have a 2.5 or higher GPA are eligible to apply. Scholarships will be awarded to applicants planning to pursue a two- or four-year degree in Programming, Networking, Interactive Media, Information Support and Services, or other Information Technology related areas. Once a member has received a scholarship, he or she is ineligible to apply in subsequent years.

A member can apply for the Sara A. Mazak Scholarship and for a Business Professionals of America (BPA), Ohio Association scholarship. If the member is a finalist in both scholarship categories, he or she must designate which scholarship is preferred. A member cannot be awarded both scholarships.

Requirements

An application packet must be submitted to the Scholarship Committee no later than **February 3, 2012**. The packet must include:

1. The **Application form** (page 3 of this packet) signed by applicant and his or her chapter advisor.
2. An **Official transcript**.
3. ACT/SAT scores; if available.
4. A **Resume** that provides information regarding the applicants' academic achievements, related work- or laboratory-based experience, school and community involvement, and leadership experience.
5. A two- to three-page **Essay**. The essay will be reviewed for the following items.
 - a. A statement of applicant's **career plan in an Information Technology career** and how he or she plans to achieve career goals. Applicant may include graphs, diagrams, or other depictions to clarify the career plan.
 - b. A description of the **Career-Tech** program and/or college **program of study** in which the applicant is currently enrolled.
 - c. A description of how the applicant's program of study has prepared him or her to be a leader in the Information Technology career field.
 - d. A statement of the applicant's **BPA** involvement, contributions, and accomplishments.
 - e. A description of **leadership** activities other than BPA. Illustrate how these experiences have contributed to the applicant's career goals.
 - f. A description of **service and volunteer** assistance to school and community.

Judging

Application packets will be reviewed by a screening committee. The screening committee may be comprised of Information Technology Business leaders from the State Business IT Advisory Council, Ohio Postsecondary Information Technology Faculty, and ODE leadership members.

Applicants must be registered for the Business Professionals of America State Leadership Conference in order to be eligible to receive a scholarship. The top five applicants from the preliminary screening will be notified by e-mail and will be invited to an interview at the State Leadership Conference on March 15, 2012. The 10- to 15-minute interview will focus on

- a. Topics pertaining to the applicant's Information Technology educational plans.
- b. The role his or her Information Technology career-technical program has played in the career choice.
- c. The role BPA membership has played in arriving at an Information Technology career goal.

Awards

A \$1000 scholarship will be awarded at the State Leadership Conference. Scholarships will be payable to the two- or four-year institution in which the winner is or will be enrolled. Scholarship must be used within one year of its award (one year after graduation for high school juniors).

The recipient of the Sara A. Mazak Information Technology Scholarship will be encouraged to participate in the annual **it**Works Conference in April. The recipient will be provided the opportunity to present his/her career plan to IT professionals and secondary/post-secondary teachers from Ohio.

The scholarship evaluation criteria are included in the packet. A complete BPA scholarship booklet is available at www.OhioBPA.org. Scholarship questions should be directed to Ohio Association State Advisor Barbara Trent at Barbara.Trent@ode.state.oh.us or 614-387-2276.

2012 Sara A. Mazak Information Technology Scholarship

Application Evaluation Rubric		
Area of Evaluation	Maximum Points	Points Awarded
Application Form - neat, all signatures included	15	
Scholastic Standing _____ Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher _____ Academic awards _____ Other academic considerations (AP courses, dual enrollment, articulated credit, etc.)	15	
Evidence of Career Planning _____ Clearly stated Information Technology career goal _____ Appropriate career (i.e. alignment with an IT Pathway) _____ Realistic career plan that will lead to employment _____ Career ladder diagram or other graphic depiction (optional)	20	
Work or Laboratory Experience _____ Indication of hands-on experience related to career goal	10	
Leadership _____ BPA leadership roles _____ Information Technology leadership experience _____ Evidence of other OJT training or experience	20	
Service _____ Evidence of Service to school _____ Evidence of Service to community	20	
Essay _____ Addressed required items. _____ Effective communication skills demonstrated _____ Grammatically correct _____ Clear and concise language used	30	
Interview Skills _____ Professional appearance and conduct _____ Proper introduction _____ Used suitable language and grammar, including an understanding of technical terms. _____ Exhibited enthusiasm and self-confidence	20	
Response to Interview Questions		
Question 1	10	
Question 2	10	
Question 3	10	
Question 4	10	
Question 5	10	
TOTAL POINTS	200	