



## The Huntington's Disease Society of America's 2016 – 13<sup>th</sup> Annual National Youth Alliance [NYA] National Convention Scholarship

The Huntington's Disease Society of America is pleased to announce it is now accepting applications for HDSA's 2016 – 13<sup>th</sup> Annual National Youth Alliance (NYA) National Convention Scholarship.

The intent of this scholarship is to help active members of the NYA, attend the HDSA National Convention in Baltimore, MD June 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>.

This fund was established to benefit all current members of the NYA and exists thanks to the support and generosity of families at the annual NYA Silent Auction and other events held at the annual HDSA National Convention, as well as fundraising efforts by NYA members throughout the year.

### **Scholarship Availability & Application**

The scholarship is open to any current or alumni member of the NYA who did **NOT** receive a scholarship in 2015. You must be a registered member of HDSA's NYA to apply. Membership information is available at [www.nya.hdsa.org](http://www.nya.hdsa.org).

- NYA alumni applications will receive full consideration from the Scholarship Committee. However scholarships will only be awarded if funding is available after current NYA member scholarships have been awarded.

All Scholarship recipients are expected to attend NYA Day on Thursday, June 2, 2016 as well as all pertinent workshops and NYA activities during the course of the National Convention. You will also be required to volunteer either for silent auction preparation or at the NYA table during the Convention.

The 2016 NYA Scholarship Application follows this introduction. The application is also available on-line from the HDSA website ([www.nya.hdsa.org](http://www.nya.hdsa.org)). (Forms printed from that website should be printed in "portrait" setting.)

### **What does the scholarship cover?**

- A Full Scholarship:  
A full scholarship recipient will receive funding to cover round-trip airfare, hotel accommodations (you may be asked to share a room with other scholarship recipients) *and* Convention registration.
- A Partial Scholarship:  
A partial scholarship recipient will receive funding to cover one of the following:
  - Round-trip airfare
  - Hotel Accommodations

-Convention Registration

**Application Deadline:**

Applications must be post-marked no later than midnight, Friday, March 18, 2016. The application, essay and all required signatures are to be mailed to:

Huntington's Disease Society of America  
Attention: NYA/Mynelly Perez  
505 Eighth Avenue, Suite 902  
New York, N.Y. 10018

Additionally, they may be submitted as a PDF document by email to Mynelly Perez at [mperez@hdsa.org](mailto:mperez@hdsa.org). Please put "NYA Scholarship" in the subject line.

**Notification of Winners**

Applicants will be notified no later than April 1, 2016 as to the status of their application.

**Contributions to this Fund**

If you know someone who would like to contribute to the NYA Scholarship Fund at HDSA, please ask them to mail a check or money order, payable to the "HDSA" and in the memo please write "NYA Scholarship Fund" to the above address. They may also make a contribution online by going to [www.nya.hdsa.org](http://www.nya.hdsa.org).

Thank you for your continued support to the Huntington's Disease Society of America and the HDSA National Youth Alliance!

Sincerely,



Louise Vetter Chief Executive Officer

Attached:  
2016 NYA Convention Scholarship Application

**2016 HDSA – National Youth Alliance Convention  
Scholarship Fund Application**

This, and all following pages, must be completed and submitted to HDSA as your “application” for the 2016 HDSA NYA Convention Scholarship. The application may be completed by any NYA or NYA alumni member who needs financial assistance to attend the HDSA 2016 National Convention in Baltimore, MD. The NYA Scholarship Committee will keep all information contained on this application in strict confidence. However the names of the scholarship winners will be announced on the HDSA website, as well as in other HDSA publications.

**Deadline:** Friday, March 18, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. eastern time.

**Determination of Scholarship Awards**

The scholarship awards will be determined by the HDSA NYA Scholarship Committee based on financial need, previous Convention attendance, location and the applicant’s essay. You will be notified no later than April 1, 2016 if you have been awarded a 2016 Convention Scholarship.

**Applicant (all fields are required, no P.O. boxes please) PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

Name:				Birth date	
Street Address					
City:		State:		Zip:	
Home Phone:		Cell Phone			
Email Address:					

**Parent or Guardian**

If you are a minor (under18) please provide the following information about your parent or guardian:

Name:					
Relationship to Applicant					
Street Address					
City:		State:		Zip:	
Home Phone:		Cell Phone			
Email Address:					

## Sections 1 through 5 - 2016 NYA Convention Scholarship Application

### 1. Previous attendance at a HDSA National Convention:

- I have never attended a convention before.  
 This will be my 2nd convention.  
 This will be my 3rd convention.  
 This will be my 4th convention.  
 This will be my 5<sup>th</sup> convention.  
 I have attended 6 or more conventions.

If you have attended conventions in the past, please list the years you have attended.

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### 2. I have been a member of the NYA for:

- 6 years or longer.  
 less than 6 years, longer than 5 years.  
 less than 5 years, longer than 4 years.  
 less than 4 years, longer than 3 years.  
 less than 3 years, longer than 2 years.  
 less than 2 years, longer than 1 year.  
 less than 1 year, longer than 6 months.  
 less than 6 months.

### 3. Are you actively part of a local HDSA Chapter/Affiliate and/or support group

Yes  No

If yes, please provide the name of the Chapter/Affiliate and/or support group.

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### 4. Financial Need

a. **How many people/dependents are currently living in your home (including yourself):** [a dependent is defined as those in Box 6 of IRS Income Tax form 1040, including the person filing.]

- Adults 18 and older:  
 Children 17 and younger:

### b. The total 2014 Gross Annual Income for my household was :

Adjusted Gross Income is line 44 on IRS Income Tax form 1040.

- Under \$10,000  
 Over \$10,000 but under \$20,000  
 Over \$20,000 but under \$30,000  
 Over \$30,000 but under \$35,000  
 Over \$35,000 but under \$40,000

\_\_\_\_ Over \$40,000 but under \$45,000

\_\_\_\_ \$50,000 or higher

\*please see item I on the addendum (page 6) for additional information

**5. Essay –**

**“Why is it important to join the fight against Huntington’s disease?”**

On the separate sheet of paper provided below please write, and submit with your application, an essay on *“Why is it important to join the fight against Huntington’s disease?”*.

**6. Type of Financial Help Needed:** Complete this section and return it with your application. It will help us better understand the financial support you’ll need to attend the HDSA National Convention.

**As a scholarship winner, I’ll need help with (check what you will need help with):**

\_\_\_\_ HDSA Convention Registration fee

\_\_\_\_ Hotel room (4 nights) in Baltimore, MD (*Please note that you may be asked to share rooms with other scholarship winners, if you are sharing a room with family members only a percentage of the room cost will be covered*)

If yes, how many nights: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Roundtrip Airfare

If yes, what airport is closest to you: PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

\_\_\_\_\_

Are other family members planning on attending the 2016 Convention: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, do you plan on sharing a room at a hotel with one of them? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

**Sections I through VI Signatures Required Where Applicable**

**I. – Proof of Financial Hardship**

If you are unable to provide a copy of your household’s 2016 [or most recent] IRS tax return with your application, the following form must be completed and signed. A member of your HDSA Chapter, a social worker, your physician, a clergy person or basketball coach should sign this. This person is attesting that you require financial assistance in order for you to attend the convention.

**II. – Financial Witness**

I, (print name) \_\_\_\_\_

I represent (HDSA Chapter, Clergy etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby attest that the above applicant requires financial support in order to attend the 2016 HDSA National Convention.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**III. Applicants who are Minors (under the age of 18)**

***All applicants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or an adult guardian.***

If the applicant is under the age of 18, and will be attending the Convention without a parent/ legal guardian, a guardian must be appointed by the parent/legal guardian. You are required to provide the name and signature of a guardian in the below space:

Minor’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, (print name) \_\_\_\_\_ am the above applicant's  
(relationship): \_\_\_\_\_

hereby attest to the fact that the above minor NYA applicant is able to attend the 2016 HDSA National convention under the supervision of the following guardian:

Name of guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/legal guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**IV. Release of Liability Applicants 18 and Over**

I hereby accept full responsibility for my own safety and care should I be awarded a HDSA 2016 NYA Convention Scholarship. I am able to travel on my own and attend the HDSA National Convention in Baltimore, MD without aid or supervision.

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**V. Release of Liability Applicants under 18**

I, the undersigned, understand that neither the HDSA, the HDSA NYA Scholarship Committee, the convention Hotels, nor any member of its staff, will be liable for the applicant’s safety or care if they are awarded a 2016 HDSA NYA Convention Scholarship.

Signature of Applicant [or Parent if applicant is a minor]:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a parent or guardian, check one:

I will \_\_\_\_\_, I will not \_\_\_\_\_ be attending the Convention with the applicant.

**Deadline & Mailing Instructions**

This application, including essay, all attachments and required signatures, must be postmarked no later than midnight, Friday, March 18, 2016. Applications are to be mailed to:

Huntington’s Disease Society of America  
Attention: Mynelly Perez  
505 Eighth Avenue, Suite 902  
New York, N.Y. 10018

Or the application may be submitted as a PDF to Mynelly Perez at [mperez@hdsa.org](mailto:mperez@hdsa.org). Please include “NYA Scholarship” in the subject line.

## Application Check list:

Did you remember to...

Fill out all fields in the application

Sign all the forms

Attach a copy of you 2015 IRS Tax Return

(We only need the top page that reflects your name and gross income, any information such as social security numbers may be blocked out)

Attach your essay



**2016 HDSA NYA Convention Scholarship ESSAY**

**“Why is it important to join the fight against Huntington’s disease?”**

This essay should be a minimum of 200 words and not to exceed 500 words. It must be returned with your application for scholarship. You can have someone in your family help you write your essay. Please provide any information about your personal involvement, since January 2015, in supporting or initiating Huntington’s Disease advocacy, awareness/education, or fund raising efforts either through the NYA, an HDSA Chapter, HD Support group, local or national media, etc. If you have newspaper clipping, please attach them.

Name:		Date:	
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**Why it is important to me to join the fight against Huntington’s disease:**