

The SSLA Youth Scholarship Policy

Approved 10 August 2026

Committee's Objective

To honor one SSLA high school graduate for their involvement in SSLA and to encourage SSLA Youth to submit an application for the SSLA Youth Scholarship.

Skills Needed

- Basic computer knowledge with internet and email access.
- Basic knowledge of downloading applications sent by emails, able to work independently within a timeline.
- Basic accounting knowledge to help oversee Youth Scholarship bank account with expenditures and deposits.

The Committee

The SSLA Youth Scholarship Committee acts with limited authority to freely decide on matters which the committee was formed. A Liaison will be assigned to help with communications between the Committee and the Board of Directors.

The Chairperson is appointed by the President, usually at the first board meeting following the Annual SSLA Membership Meeting. The Chairperson is responsible to verify the Youth Applications are valid, writing all checks, and maintains all bank records and transactions. Additional committee members serve as an assistant to the Chairperson.

The term of the Committee is for one year. There are no restrictions to term limits for serving on this Committee. It is recommended no less than three members, including one Board Member.

General Guidelines

Send any new forms to current Webmaster to help keep the Program information and forms on the website up-to-date, easy to locate, and download for our members.

The Committee is encouraged to submit a brief report to the Board with any monthly activity, comments, or recommendations, at least 5 days prior to regular BOD Meetings. A yearly report is required to be sent to Board Liaison at least 10 days prior to the Annual SSLA Membership Meeting.

By **Feb. 15**, the Committee submits yearly to the current Secretary, updates on any software used, bank, account numbers, user names, and a password so if there is an emergency and the Chairperson can not fulfill their duties, the transactions to a new Chairperson will go smoothly.

By October 15th: Submit an article to the Llama Journal Chairperson with information on what is the Youth Scholarship, basic requirements to apply, where to find forms, and deadline, etc.

First part of November: Send a letter to the membership with youth the information and application form for applying for the Program, along with making a post ad type and posting on SSLA Facebook indicating where they can find the application, forms to download, and deadline for entries to be received.

Last week of December: Reminder for deadline, 2nd Sunday of January, should be sent to membership Youth and on Facebook.

Mid January to 2 weeks prior to Annual SSLA Membership Meeting (March): The Committee reviews applications that were received and verifies:

- Applications were received prior to the deadline and filled out according to instructions.
- Applicant and family are current members in good standing and members for over one full year.
- Select one applicant to receive the Scholarship.
- If application is found invalid, it should not be considered for the scholarship.

The selection process for the award is based on academic grades in High School, involvement with llamas, participation in the SSLA, and community work and activities. The Recipient and Board should be notified **two weeks prior to the Annual SSLA Membership Meeting** so they can make arrangements to attend, but it is not required. The Recipient is announced at the Membership Meeting.

By April 15: It is highly encouraged to have the Recipient submit an article themselves with a few pictures to the Llama Journal. The Committee should send a “congratulatory notice” to the Llama Journal announcing the winner.

At the end June: A notice from the Committee is sent to the continuing Youth Recipients, reminding them it is required to submit proof of grades annually to the Youth Scholarship Committee by transcripts from the school, at the end of each 2nd term. If they do not comply or grades are less than B average, the Recipients will forfeit their Scholarship check.

After transcripts are received, within two weeks, the Committee sends Youth Recipients a check for the amount \$1,000.00 and sends a report to the President and Treasurer.

It is the responsibility of the Committee to work with the Treasure, and to keep the bank accounts accurate and up-to-date. Any funds given to support the Youth Scholarship Program, should be deposited within 10 days and notify the Treasurer. At any time, the Treasurer, President, or Finance Committee may review bank accounts and records.



Southern States Llama Association

SSLA YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

1. The SSLA youth scholarship award will be given out on a yearly basis if a qualified applicant is received. It will consist of a \$1,000.00 award being given out each year for four consecutive years, for a maximum of \$ 4,000.00. The award will be given for two year degrees also. The recipient must maintain a B average each year to continue to be eligible and receive the award. Proof of grades must be provided annually to the Youth Scholarship Committee by transcript.
2. Any high school senior in pursuit of an undergraduate degree who is a member of the Southern States Llama Association may apply for this Youth Scholarship. The student must have been a member in good standing for a minimum of one year. The family must be a member of SSLA.
3. To apply for this scholarship, a Youth Scholarship Application Form must be filled out and submitted to the Youth Scholarship Committee by the second Monday in January of the year in which the scholarship will be awarded.
4. The Youth Scholarship Award will be presented at the annual Southern States Conference in March of that year.
5. The selection process for the award will be based on academic grades in High School, involvement with llamas, participation in the SSLA, and community work and activities.

To apply, contact Tom Rothering, Youth Scholarship Chairman/Trustee for an application form.

Tom Rothering
809 W. Swilley Loop
Plant City, FL 33567
H-813-737-3318 or C-813-802-9271
twrothering@aol.com

Serving the Camelid Community since 1987



Southern States Llama Association

SSLA YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please Print

Name _____ Telephone _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parents/Guardian Name _____ Telephone _____ Email _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

School currently Attending _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Guidance Counselor _____ Year of Graduation _____

GPA Weighted _____ Non-Weighted _____

Name of College/University/Vocational School planning to attend _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Two Year School _____ or Four Year School _____

Degree planning to earn _____

High School Achievements: Clubs (offices held), Sports, Scholastic Achievements (honors & awards):

Community involvement: SSLA participation, 4H, Scouts, Community activities

On a separate sheet *hand written* – After completing the above information, tell us about yourself. What are your hobbies? What do you like to do? How did you become involved in llamas or alpacas? What are your career plans? What are your short term goals, and your long term goals?

Submit the completed application to the Youth Scholarship Committee by the second Monday in January.

Tom Rothering, 809 W. Swilley Loop, Plant City, FL 33567, H-813-737-3318 or C-813-802-9271

Twrothering@aol.com

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