



**NOAH COSTA'S GIFT
GRANT APPLICATION**



**DEADLINE:
OCTOBER 6, 2017**

Noah Costa's Gift Grant Application

Noah's Gift Endowed Fund was established in memory of Noah Costa. Noah was adventuresome, athletic, and had a big heart. After Noah's death at the age of 16, the Noah's Gift Endowed Fund was established to help other young people carry on his spirit of adventure by funding extraordinary experiences to promote self-exploration and growth for grant winners. The goal of Noah's Gift is to allow its recipients a deserving opportunity to fulfill a dream.

Who was Noah?

Noah was a vibrant and passionate young man. He lived life to the fullest through travel, sports, his big heart, and his giving spirit.

At the time of his passing, Noah was a junior at Cypress Lake High School in Fort Myers, FL, and a defencemen on the Midget U-18AA team in the Florida Junior Everblades Hockey program. Noah was a graduate of the Sanibel School, the Lausanne Collegiate School in Memphis, TN, and the Hernando Middle School in Hernando, MS. Noah was active in youth hockey programs with both the Junior RiverKings and Junior StreetKings while at HMS.

Noah loved hockey and skating. He also enjoyed skim boarding, surfing, fishing, hiking, shooting, white water rafting, parasailing, rock climbing, skydiving, and all things extreme and outdoors. Noah loved to travel, and he spent a great deal of time in Canada, Mexico, and the southwestern United States.

Who can apply for Noah's Gift?

Any young person 13-19 can apply for a Noah's Gift grant. Because of his love for travel, there are no geographical restrictions on who may apply

What can Noah's Gift be used for?

Noah's Gift grants are made to young people embarking on a journey of individual growth. Noah's Gift encourages applicants to be creative and to explore opportunities to reach goals they might not have otherwise had the means to achieve.

Funds cannot be used for tuition expenses. The selection committee understands that education is an integral part of many young peoples' goals. We encourage applicants to explore educational opportunities not covered by scholarships and financial aid such as study abroad or dues required for participation in service organizations.

Although team sports were an important part of Noah's life, requests solely for sports equipment will not be considered. Applications for travel or tryout expenses will be considered if the applicant can demonstrate the impact it will have on them individually in overcoming extenuating circumstances.

The maximum amount of Noah's Gift is \$2,500.00. Noah's Gift may fund up to 80% of the total cost of the related experience.

In the spirit of fairness, the selection committee may not review applications from organizations with multiple applying members, such as sports teams, band, choirs, etc. Should an organization wish to apply for a Noah's Gift Grant, requests may be emailed to noahsgift55@gmail.com.

How to Apply

The Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi must receive all application documents by 5:00pm on October 6, 2017. Application documents may be dropped off in person or mailed to 315 Loshier Street, Suite 100, Hernando, MS 38632. Digital applications may be submitted to noahsgift55@gmail.com.

Selection Process

The Noah's Gift selection committee, comprised of individuals with an average age of 25, meets a minimum of once a year to review applications and distribute grants. Grant recipients are traditionally announced at the annual Noah's Gift 5K in October. Additional announcements may be made if grants are awarded to time-sensitive experiences.

One of the main questions the selection committee considers is, "What would Noah fund?" to aid in making their decision. For this reason, please keep Noah in mind and in your heart as you prepare your application materials.

Application Checklist

- Application Form
- Reference letter from a non-parent adult
- Information on the extraordinary experience Noah's Gift would fund. This could be a brochure or flier from a relevant website or other source. If none is available, please create one yourself. Be sure the documentation includes important logistical information such as dates, locations, and other pertinent details.
- A budget for your experience. This should include a breakdown of the costs, including how much the applicant has saved to supplement Noah's Gift or how they will earn the additional funds.
- Application Essay: Answer the following questions, either separately or within a single essay: Who are you? What do you want to do? What impact will this experience have on your life or how does it fit into a larger goal? Why are you specifically deserving of Noah's Gift? How will you help Noah's memory live on?

Noah Costa's Gift Grant Application Form

Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Date of Birth: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Applicant's School: _____
(If graduated, list last school attended)

Please attach:

- Reference letter from a non-parent adult
- Information on the extraordinary experience Noah's Gift would fund. This could be a brochure or flier from a relevant website or other source. If none is available, please create one yourself. Be sure the documentation includes important logistical information such as dates, locations, and other pertinent details.
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