



**NOAH COSTA'S GIFT  
GRANT APPLICATION**



**DEADLINE:  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2019**

## **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. Noah also played baseball, football, basketball, and soccer while in the Hernando area. He went to art camps, church camps, and sports camps. Noah was an actor in school plays, and won 4th place in the state of Florida for video production. Additionally, he was on the chess team.

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. All grant experiences must take place by the applicant's 20th birthday. Teens are welcome to re-apply if they are not awarded a grant with their original application and they still meet all eligibility requirements.

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](mailto:noahsgift55@gmail.com).

### **How to Apply**

The Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi must receive all application documents by 5:00pm on September 6, 2019. 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](mailto: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. 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. Noah would fund many extraordinary experiences worthy of funding - including but not limited to those in the categories of arts, entertainment, music, athletics, and adventures. A one-page sheet is attached with a listing of previous grants funded.

### **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?



## Past Winners of Noah Costa's Gift:

### **2012 Grant Winners**

Play hockey for a Jr. A team \* Create a modeling portfolio to build self esteem \*  
Continue volunteerism through a sorority

### **2013 Grant Winners**

Explore the eco-diversity of Costa Rica \* Restore a 1973 Ford F100 truck with their grandfather \*  
Back-country Snowboarding in Colorado

### **2014 Grant Winners**

Play on traveling hockey team \* Provide hockey equipment \* Play on a competitive traveling hockey  
team \* Travel to Washington, D.C. to visit the Smithsonian and study American history

### **2015 Grant Winners**

“Leap Year” adventure in Nepal \* Build a shade structure at Hernando Skate Park \*  
Air Force Tennis Camp in Colorado \* Travel to New York to visit culinary school

### **2016 Grant Winners**

Travel to Hawaii for an extreme adventure trip

### **2017 Grant Winners**

Travel to London and Paris \* Attend Broadway Dance Camp in New York City \* Skydiving in Hawaii \*  
Attend Washington Youth Summit on the Environment \* Sing at Carnegie Hall

### **2018 Grant Winners**

Attend ID Tech Camp at University of Memphis \* Participate in a Gladiator Reenactment in Italy \*  
Go on a Guided Deer Hunt \* Visit a dance school in New York \* Play Hockey at Ole Miss \*  
Travel to Italy \* Travel to Paris \* Travel to New York for Art Camp \*  
Becoming a Student Baseball Coach \* Scuba Diving in Cayman Brac \*  
Visiting the Havasupai Indian Reservation \* Fly Fishing in Colorado

## 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)

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **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.
- 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.
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