

Student: _____

Reviewer: _____

Believe in Ohio Statewide STEM Scholarship Program

Application Review Sheet

**Applicants must be a junior or senior in good standing at any Ohio high school
(Class of 2021 or 2022)**

The applicant should have distinguished themselves in a significant, rigorous STEM or entrepreneurship competition, research project, or published manuscript that demonstrates the applicant's potential to become a future innovator. Entrepreneurship programs should examine competition, marketplace opportunities & financial projections. Students who have successfully started their own business would be an ultimate example of external validation.

A transcript that shows a Grade Point Average of 3.0 or better at the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

Points	1-2	3-5	6-8	Points Assigned
GPA (8 Points)	3.00-3.29	3.30-3.59	3.60+	

An essay written by the applicant (maximum of two total pages and 750 words, 12pt font (Times New Roman, Arial, Verdana, or Calibri), 1 ½ or double spaced), that answers these three questions:

Section A: Why is the statement "STEM + Entrepreneurial Mindset = Innovation" important?

Section B: Why do you think you deserve this scholarship, and how will it help you prepare for your future?

Section C: Which Choose Ohio First program at an Ohio college or university interests you the most, and why?

Points	1-4	5-8	9-12	Points Assigned
Essay section A (12 Points)	Makes general observations about the importance of STEM & entrepreneurship as a catalyst for innovation and job creation.	Discusses and cites specific examples of how STEM & entrepreneurship accelerate industry development and job growth.	Builds upon the discussion & citations of specific examples and shares ideas and personal goals for applying STEM & entrepreneurship as a future innovator.	
Essay section B (12 Points)	Describes mostly academic qualifications while making little or no reference to experiential learning. Only describes the scholarship as a way to defray college expenses.	Discusses academic qualifications but places a stronger emphasis on the external validation of STEM research & entrepreneurship projects & how these build upon future plans.	Discuss how both academic achievement and experiential learning has prepared them for a post-secondary education and career pathways.	
Essay section C (12 Points)	Clearly identifies a COF program for which the applicant shows a general interest.	Discusses how the identified COF program relates to future academic interests.	Applicant demonstrates a true interest in a COF program by providing specific examples that relate to what they have already learned through STEM research or an entrepreneurial project	

Provide a 500 word (maximum) summary that discusses the significant, rigorous STEM or entrepreneurship competition, research project, published manuscript, or successful business that demonstrates the student’s potential to excel as a future innovator.

Points	1-10	11-30	31-40	Points Assigned
Summary of STEM or Entrepreneurship Project (40 points)	Applicant describes meeting the requirements for entering a competition, meeting, or symposium, etc. Discusses the nature of the research and the concluded results but does not indicate a final score or evaluation.	Applicant explains how the project was accepted or evaluated with a documented degree of success including awards, which demonstrates achievement well beyond the minimum standard. Entrepreneurship programs should include a written component that examines competition, marketplace opportunity allocation of resources, financial projections, etc.	Discusses and explains how the project achieved a high level of success. This means earning an evaluated score in the top 10%, or the highest ranking possible. The project may have earned the opportunity to advance to a national competition or was recognized with a sponsored award or scholarship. Students who have successfully started their own business would be the ultimate example of external validation. Generally, these projects stand out as work well beyond the student’s current grade level.	

Applicant must provide two letters of recommendation from a (non-family member) teacher, counselor, STEM, or business professional or community leader that discuss the qualities that recommend the applicant for this scholarship.

Points	1-3	4-6	7-8	Points Assigned
Letter 1 of 2 Letter of Recommendation (8 Points)	The recommender is expected to emphasize the student’s basic interest in STEM or entrepreneurship and speak to some measure of accomplishment.	Goes beyond discussing the applicant’s interest in STEM or entrepreneurship and provides an enthusiastic endorsement that describes qualitative characteristics needed for future success.	Recommender enthusiastically supports the applicant as a well-qualified candidate and cites specific academic achievement and experience-based learning while emphasizing concrete evidence in describing STEM/Entrepreneurship talents, leadership ability, personality, and perseverance. All necessary qualities and characteristics for being an innovator.	
Letter 2 of 2 Letter of Recommendation (8 Points)				

Criteria	Points
GPA (max. 8 points)	
Essay section A (max. 12 points)	
Essay section B (max. 12 points)	
Essay section C (max. 12 points)	
Summary (max. 40 points)	
Letter 1 of 2 (max. 8 points)	
Letter 2 of 2 (max. 8 points)	
Maximum 100 points	Total: