



# Believe in Ohio

All Ohio high school students, who are juniors or seniors during the 2021-2022 school year, and who meet the qualifications below, are invited to apply for a:

## ***Believe in Ohio STEM Innovation and Entrepreneurship Scholarship***

The purpose of this scholarship program is to recognize students throughout Ohio for their contributions to STEM Innovation and Entrepreneurship. To ensure that students from all parts of Ohio receive recognition, we would like to award at least one \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in each of Ohio's ninety-nine State House of Representative districts, and thirty-three Ohio State Senate districts.



Ohio has a long tradition of innovation. Thomas Edison and Orville and Wilber Wright changed the way we live and travel. Neil Armstrong and John Glenn showed us what was beyond the clouds and dared us to dream. Ohio is the birthplace of great innovators and courageous trailblazers. We're calling on you to step forward and join this legacy. Combine your passion for science and technology with a spirit of entrepreneurship to be part of Ohio's future. We believe in you. We believe in Ohio. And we hope you will Choose Ohio First.

*Mike Dewine*

*Jon Husted*

### HOW TO APPLY FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP

- A. Applicants must be a junior or senior in good standing at any Ohio high school (Class of 2022 or 2023).
- B. 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. (See additional explanation on the page that follows, as well as some examples of the types of student experiences that might distinguish the applicant.)
- C. Applicant must develop and/or source the following documents and *compile them into a single PDF document in the numerical order noted below, which the applicant must attach to their online application. The online application and template can be found at:*  
<https://form.jotform.com/OhioScience/STEM-scholarship>
  1. A copy of your current transcript that shows a Grade Point Average of 3.0 or better.
  2. An essay written by the applicant that answers the following questions:
    - a. Why do you think you deserve this scholarship, and how will it help you prepare for your future?
    - b. Discuss, in detail, the significant, rigorous STEM or entrepreneurship competition, research project, or published manuscript that you completed. How did this experience demonstrate your potential to excel as a future innovator?
- D. Complete the online application form which will ask the applicant for all their contact information. It will also ask the student to provide the Ohio House and Ohio Senate legislative district numbers in which they live. (How to find this information is explained on the page that follows.) **The online application and template can be found at:**  
<https://form.jotform.com/OhioScience/STEM-scholarship>
- E. Applicant must provide a letter 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. The recommendation letter, referencing the applicant's name & high school should be emailed to: [scholarship@ohiosci.org](mailto:scholarship@ohiosci.org)

**ALL OF THE STUDENT'S APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY  
MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2022.**



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## Additional Explanatory Information

**What constitutes “a significant, rigorous STEM or entrepreneurship competition, research project, or published manuscript that demonstrates the applicant’s potential to become a future innovator”?**

- Project/work/research must include an original, properly cited, appropriately researched, written report that justifies and explains the ideas and conclusions expressed. While the project/work/research does not have to be an original idea, it must at least meaningfully improve on an existing idea. The project/work/research must have been externally validated. External validation means there is a mechanism for the student's body of work to be evaluated, judged, or recognized by independent, professional content experts or the consuming public. A high school capstone project that is graded by the student's teacher is not an example of external validation.

**Examples of what might demonstrate the student’s potential to become a future innovator:**

- A *Believe in Ohio* STEM Commercialization or STEM Business Plan.
- A Local Science Day, District Science Day, State Science Day, Northeast Ohio Science & Engineering Fair, Best Medicine competition, NWO Science and Engineering Fair, FFA Agri-science Fairs, Google Science Fair, or other similar science or engineering fair project.
- Any other STEM / Innovation / Entrepreneurship competition of rigor (e.g. through Junior Achievement, DECA, FFA or other similar program). Validation for entrepreneurship programs should include a written component that examines competition, marketplace opportunities, allocation of resources, financial projections, etc. Students who have successfully started their own business would be the ultimate example of external validation.
- Research submitted for grant funding, producing a research manuscript for publication, or having research accepted and presented at a meeting, research symposium, or conference, such as, but not limited to: The Ohio Academy of Science Annual Meeting, Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, Wildlife Research Symposium, Environmental Education Council Conference of Ohio.

**How to find out which Ohio House and Ohio Senate legislative district number the applicant lives in and the names of their current Ohio House and Senate officeholders:** (Requirement D)

[Click here to search for your House District and Representative’s Name](#)

[Click here to search for your Senate District and Senator’s Name](#)

**The Ohio Academy of Science will retain scholarship funds for future distribution for those not needing the money in the year of the award. If the student does not attend an Ohio college, university, or post-secondary technical center, and instead enrolls in an out-of-state institution, any scholarship that they may have earned will be forfeited. Scholarships will only be paid for attending any public or private Ohio college, university, or post-secondary technical center.**

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