

# Private Prep “Learn to Thrive” Scholarship Program Class of 2026

The Private Prep “Learn to Thrive” Scholarship Program was created to support and empower students from backgrounds that have been traditionally underrepresented in higher education. The scholarship program’s goal is to combat the systemic inequities, particularly race-based inequities, of the American education institution by helping our students develop and employ skills that will allow them to create greater opportunities for their futures. While guiding our students through the standardized test prep and/or college application processes, we seek to provide them with counseling, resources, and experiential knowledge that will equip them to make informed and empowered decisions along their paths to higher education and beyond.

## **The Private Prep “Learn to Thrive” Scholarship Program Core Values:**

- We are committed to creating a more just and equitable society.
- We believe that education is power.
- We are dedicated to creating space and opportunity for students to self-reflect and self-actualize.

## **What our program offers:**

Comprehensive and personalized 1:1 guidance and mentoring through the full college application process, including:

- Personalized strategic guidance (extracurriculars, college list that fits a student’s goals and preferences)
- Discussion of different admissions strategies
- Managing the application timeline
- Applications to summer programs and opportunities
- Full application and essay support for up to twelve colleges
- Merit scholarship and fly-in application support when appropriate

We collaborate closely with the school guidance office and parents whenever possible to ensure that we are working as a team on behalf of our Scholars in helping them achieve their college goals.

## **Criteria**

*Competitive applicants will meet the following criteria:*

- Demonstrated extracurricular interests, commitment to community, and/or significant family responsibilities
- Unweighted GPA of 3.5 or above in a rigorous course load within their school context (AP, Honors, IB)
- Eligible for free or reduced lunch or 90%+ scholarship at an independent school
- Preference will be given to students from historically underrepresented communities and to 1st generation college-bound students

# Private Prep “Learn to Thrive” Scholarship Program Application

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This scholarship program is awarded to students who demonstrate financial need, a track record of academic excellence, and a commitment to the “Learn to Thrive” program. Our application review is holistic, and is designed to mirror the college application process. We hope that this can be a useful exercise and want it to be as helpful as possible, so please feel free to ask questions and seek feedback at any point in the process.

Submit your application and supporting documents **by October 1, 2024** to [scholarship@privateprep.com](mailto:scholarship@privateprep.com).

- Completed Application
- Counselor form (attached)
- Current high school transcript showing classes, grades, and state test scores where applicable (including Regents exams)
- School profile (provided by school counselor)
- PSAT Scores (if applicable)
- A letter of recommendation from a teacher or counselor at your high school that explain why you are an excellent candidate for this scholarship program
- Expectations Contract (attached)
- Optional* Release Form (attached)

We look forward to considering your application!

## Personal Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

How you heard about the Private Prep Scholarship: \_\_\_\_\_

## Demonstrated Financial Need:

- I qualify for free or reduced lunch
- I receive a 90+% private school scholarship

Select Citizenship Status:

- US Citizen or US National
- US Dual Citizen
- US Permanent Resident
- US Refugee or Asylee
- DACA eligible
- Other (non-US)

College History (please check one):

- Yes, I will be the first generation in my family to attend a 4-year college
- No, I will not be the first generation in my family to attend a 4-year college

**Note:** If you have a sibling who has attended college, you are still considered a first-generation college student.

Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_

Languages spoken (please check all that apply)

- English
- Spanish
- Mandarin
- French
- Arabic
- Portuguese
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Participation in other programs that offer test prep and/or college admissions support:

- No
- Yes

If yes, list the name of the program(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Parents Highest Level of Education

- None
- Some grade/primary school
- Completed grade/primary school
- Some high school/secondary school
- Completed high school/secondary school
- GED
- Some trade school or community college
- Graduated from trade school or community college
- Bachelor's degree
- Graduate degree

**High School Information**

Name of current school: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of school: \_\_\_\_\_

School Contact Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

School Contact Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Contact Phone Number/Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

Current grade level: \_\_10th \_\_11th

Current math class: \_\_ Geometry \_\_ Alg2/Trig \_\_ PreCalc \_\_ Calc

*Note: For students applying for test prep support, completion of Algebra 2/Trig prior to 11th grade is recommended.*

Will you have access to a computer for tutoring during the school day? (This is not a requirement)

Yes      No

Will you have access to a graphic calculator? (This is not a requirement)

Yes      No

If yes, please indicate which model: \_\_\_\_\_

**Written Response 1)** List and briefly describe all extracurricular activities you have participated in during the last twelve months, both inside and outside of school. This can include family commitments, leadership positions, school clubs, sports, jobs, community service, volunteer activities, hobbies, etc. Everything counts!

2) Tutoring will be online (unless available in-person) and will take place during or after school hours. Sessions typically run 60-90 minutes long. Please indicate ALL of your availability for weekly tutoring sessions from October through June.

Midweek Monday-Friday:

Weekend Saturday-Sunday:

Any additional comments about scheduling/availability:

3) Please let us know your current thinking about your college goals: major/program of interest, extracurricular opportunities, type of campus, location, size, campus culture, etc. If you have any dream schools, tell us! Please also address your interest in attending school further away from home. While this is not a requirement, our goal is to help our Scholars graduate as close to debt-free as possible, and sometimes the best financial aid opportunities may be found at colleges further from home.

4) College application essays aren't just sources of stress — they also offer chances for self-reflection, and can even be fun. To that end, we've chosen a few of our favorite questions asked by real colleges on their applications. You are invited to respond with either a traditional essay (300 words maximum) OR a two-minute video (filmed on a phone is fine! We can accept m4v, .mp4, and .mov files). No preference is given to either format in our admission decision.

1. What is your favorite word and why? (UVA)

2. We know you lead a busy life, full of activities, many of which are required of you. Tell us about something you do simply for the pleasure of it. (MIT)

3. Tell us about the place, or places, you call home. These can be physical places where you have lived, or a community or group that is important to you. (Brown)

Question selected: \_\_\_\_\_



# Scholarship Release Form

From time to time, our marketing team will reach out to scholarship students and their families in an effort to learn more about their experience with our program. Our goal is to celebrate the hard work of our students and highlight their educational journey through occasional blog and social media posts, featured website content, and more. This is a completely voluntary opportunity and refusal will in no way impact a student's eligibility for our scholarship program. By signing this form, you are granting permission for our team to utilize the name and likeness of your child in these efforts.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_  
[Child] grant Private Prep NYC LLC DBA The Coding Space permission to use photographs of, quotes from, and/or my child's name and likeness to spread the word about Private Prep "Learn to Thrive" Scholarship Program. Uses may include, but are not limited to: publicity, copyright purposes, illustration, advertising, and web content. Furthermore, I understand that no royalty, fee or other compensation shall become payable to me by reason of such use. Private Prep agrees, to the extent possible and to the best of their ability, to partner with families in advance to secure approval of select photos, quotes, names, and likeness.

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_



**This page to be filled out by a principal, counselor, or school administrator.**

Name and relationship to student: \_\_\_\_\_

Please briefly indicate any measures by which the applicant demonstrates financial need. Note: we are seeking to serve students who will have an Estimated Family Contribution of \$0 (family income <\$65,000 / year) and/or meet federal free and reduced lunch income guidelines. See table here.

In comparison with other college preparatory students at your school, the applicant's course selection is:

- Most demanding
- Very demanding
- Demanding
- Average
- Less than demanding
- Prefer not to respond

I confirm that, to my knowledge, this student has not enrolled in nor will not apply to another program with the same offerings (ie, college admissions and/or test prep).

- Yes
- No

If No, please explain. \_\_\_\_\_

Any additional information that would be important for Private Prep to know.

**PLEASE SUBMIT THE HIGH SCHOOL PROFILE AND STUDENT TRANSCRIPT ALONG WITH THIS STUDENT'S APPLICATION**