



Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities



Bernard Siegel & Bill Tainter Memorial Scholarship Program

For Students with Disabilities
Pursuing Higher Education

WHO WAS BERNARD SIEGEL?

Commissioner Bernard Siegel was a longtime member of Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities appointed by Supervisor Yaroslavsky of the Third District. He was an advocate for people with disabilities and a distinguished professional in the aerospace industry which included the LEM landing craft that successfully landed a man on the moon.

WHO WAS BILL TANTER?

Bill Tainter was the Executive Director for the State of California Department of Rehabilitation and a long-time advocate for people with disabilities. He was a nationally recognized leader and role model in the disability community. His work also included developing programs and workshops on disability awareness as well as presentations on Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) legislation.

The Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities established the Bernard Siegel & Bill Tainter Memorial Scholarship Program to offer graduating high school students with disabilities a financial opportunity to become more independent and self-sufficient through higher education.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- ◆ Students with disabilities pursuing higher education
- ◆ Students with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better
- ◆ Applicants residing in the County of Los Angeles at time of filing

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS SCHOLARSHIP GRANT?

- ◆ To provide supplemental financial assistance to incoming community college, vocational (trade) school, or four-year college students
- ◆ To enlighten the public that individuals with disabilities can succeed in higher education and take advantage of expanded career opportunities
- ◆ To educate the community about the academic abilities of students with disabilities

WHAT IS THE CRITERIA?

Applicants must:

- ◆ Provide proof of enrollment in community college, vocational (trade) school or four-year college or provide an acceptance letter from the chosen institute
- ◆ Provide proof of 2.0 GPA or better (transcripts)
- ◆ Provide two written recommendation letters from counselors, teachers, employers, coaches or rehabilitation counselors
- ◆ Submit a thoroughly completed Scholarship Application
- ◆ Attend the Board of Supervisors presentation
- ◆ Attend the 2016 Scholarship Reception to share their experience as a scholarship winner
- ◆ Participate in a follow-up *Bernard Siegel & Bill Tainter Memorial Scholarship Fund* survey

HOW THE MONEY IS DISBURSED?

- ◆ Awards will be granted, one in each Supervisorial District of the County of Los Angeles
- ◆ Awards will be disbursed in two parts – half upon submission of transcript grades from a community college, vocational (trade) school, or four-year college for the end of the first school semester or quarter
- ◆ The second half will be disbursed upon the submission of transcript grades from the end of the second semester or quarter; transcript must be submitted within 30 days following the end of each semester or quarter

Part I – Applicant Information

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cellular Telephone: _____

Work Telephone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Social Security/ITIN Number (last four digits): _____

Name of Parent/Guardian

First Name _____ Last Name _____

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address: _____

(If different from yours)

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cellular Telephone: _____

Work Telephone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Direct experience with disability: _____

Date your disability was diagnosed: _____

Functional limitations/characteristics of your disability: _____

Part II- Education

Name and address of high school or college you are currently attending:

School contact person (counselor, principal, etc.) _____

Telephone: _____ Date of anticipated graduation: _____

Name of community college, vocational (trade) school, or four-year college you plan to attend. _____

Number of semester units you plan to take _____

School and Community Involvement

Below, please briefly list your involvement with your school and community. This may include any offices you held, club memberships, after school activities or work experiences.

Name of Activity	Dates (from/to)	Grade level
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Part III – Knowledge of Commission on Disabilities and the County

Please attach your written response on a separate sheet to the completed application.

1. What can you tell us about the Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities?
2. Which Supervisorial District do you reside in? Tell us something about your Supervisor.
3. The occupation of a Supervisor is a significant political position in the County of Los Angeles. Could you explain, in your own words, the importance of the position held by a County Supervisor?
4. What is the importance of receiving a higher education?
5. This scholarship is named for Bernard Siegel and Bill Tainter. Tell us something about them.

Part IV – Essay Questions

Please attach your written response on a separate sheet to the completed application.

1. **Qualifications** – Explain why you feel you are a qualified candidate for the scholarship.
2. **Educational Goal** – Explain how education will help you achieve self-sufficiency and independence.
3. **Career Goal** – If you receive the scholarship, explain how you plan to use it to attain your career and professional goals.
4. **Experience as a Person with a Disability** – Describe how your disability will affect your goals or career plans.

Part V – Recommendations

Please attach two letters of recommendation from counselors, teachers, coaches and/or employers.

The five scholarship award winners will be notified on May 20, 2016. Details about the scholarship presentations will be given at that time.

PLEASE NOTE

Failure to present necessary documentation may result in the forfeit of scholarship award

Required attendance to the 2016 Scholarship reception and the Board of Supervisors presentation to be held on June 28, 2016, is needed prior to receiving any disbursement.

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____

If applicant is under the age of 18

Applications will **NOT** be considered unless thoroughly completed, submitted and received by **May 9, 2016**.

Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities
Bernard Siegel & Bill Tainter Memorial Scholarship Program
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