

Music Teachers' Association of California - Marin County Branch
APPLICATION GUIDELINES for 2024-25 DISCOVERY SCHOLARSHIP
(Applicants should keep a copy of these guidelines for reference.)

The Marin MTAC Discovery Scholarship Program offers full and partial scholarships for private study of piano, violin, viola, cello, clarinet and saxophone to motivated young people whose families are in the low-income bracket, are not property owners and who are financially unable to provide lessons to their child.

Student must be a Marin County resident. Only one scholarship will be offered per family.

Student must be enrolled in a Marin County public school in grades 2 through 10 during the coming year. Students who attend private schools will also be considered, but only with official written verification from the school financial aid officer that the student is attending on a full tuition scholarship. Each year thereafter, recipients who attend private schools must submit an updated, official verification that their full tuition scholarship is still in effect.

Student must have *daily* access to a practice instrument.

The student's family is responsible for the cost of books, recitals and related materials and must provide transportation to weekly lessons, which are held at the home or studio of a participating MTAC teacher. Repeated cancellations and/or missed lessons without good reason can be grounds for loss of the scholarship.

The scholarship pays for a total of thirty-six 45-minute lessons during the school year (August 1st – July 31st) and is renewed on a year-to-year basis, provided funds remain available, musical goals are being met and student financial need remains constant. All Discovery students are required to pass the Certificate of Merit evaluation every 2 years in order to keep their scholarship.

Decisions regarding financial need are based on demographic information obtained from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for Marin County in the year the application is processed. Applicant is required to submit a copy of his/her most recent Federal Income Tax return (including Schedules A and/or C) or provide current proof of Aid for Dependent Children (AFDC) and/or verification of other sources of income.

Student must provide in his/her own handwriting a short letter answering the following questions:

- Have you studied piano, violin or any other instrument before? Give details.
- Are you interested in a second instrument? If so, which one?
- Why do you want to take lessons?

A letter of recommendation from the student's current school classroom (home room) teacher is required. We also encourage (but do not require) additional letters of recommendation from adults who know the applicant and can attest to his/her seriousness of purpose, musical aptitude and other personal qualities.

Applications must be mailed to the Scholarship Chair, 117 Paul Drive, Suite C, San Rafael, CA 94903 and postmarked on or before JUNE 15, 2024.

Student interviews will be held on July 12th. Interview times and meeting information will be sent at a later date. Applicants will be notified of the Committee's decision no later than July 31st.

MTAC Marin County Branch 2024-25 Discovery Scholarship Application

Be sure to read the Discovery Scholarship Application Guidelines before filling out this form. All information on this form is kept strictly confidential by the Discovery Scholarship Committee, a private entity not affiliated with any governmental agency, whose sole purpose is to provide music scholarships to qualified young students who live in Marin.

For further information or help filling out the form, call Christina Bradley at 415-302-0396.

How long have you lived in Marin County? _____ years

How did you hear about Discovery Scholarship? _____

Student's Name _____ Child's Age _____

Grade child will enter in coming year ____ School child attends: _____

Parent/Guardian Information

Your name _____

Your relationship to the student: Mother/Father ____ Grandparent ____ Legal Guardian _____

Other (please explain) _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Your Marital Status:

____ Married ____ Separated ____ Divorced ____ Single ____ Widowed

E-mail address _____

Daytime Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ Fax Number _____

Current employment status:

____ Full-time ____ Part-time ____ Self-employed ____ Unemployed

Household and Financial Information

MTAC Marin Discovery Scholarship is interested in your household and financial information to determine your level of financial need. All information will be kept strictly confidential. Please respond to all applicable questions and submit a copy of your most recent Federal Income Tax return, including all forms and schedules or other documentation of income. A space is provided on the next page. Feel free to use it to explain any special circumstances.

Household Income

Income Category	Parent/Guardian 1	Parent/Guardian 2	Total
Wages, salaries, tips, etc.	\$ /year	\$ /year	\$ /year
Welfare benefits	\$ /year	\$ /year	\$ /year
Social Security benefits	\$ /year	\$ /year	\$ /year
Child support received	\$ /year	\$ /year	\$ /year
Workers' Compensation	\$ /year	\$ /year	\$ /year
Veteran's benefits	\$ /year	\$ /year	\$ /year
Disability	\$ /year	\$ /year	\$ /year
Income from other countries	\$ /year	\$ /year	\$ /year
Other income	\$ /year	\$ /year	\$ /year

Household Assets

Assets	Parent/Guardian 1	Parent/Guardian 2	Total
Cash on hand	\$	\$	\$
Savings Account(s)	\$	\$	\$
Checking Account(s)	\$	\$	\$
Real Estate Owned	\$	\$	\$
Investments	\$	\$	\$

Authorization and Certification Section

I understand that it my responsibility to read, understand and fill out this application accurately and complete, and to comply with all deadlines.

I understand that I will not receive a scholarship if my application is incomplete.

I understand that scholarships may be denied or withdrawn if any information reported on this application is found to be intentionally misleading or inaccurate.

I understand that, if my child is accepted into the scholarship program, I must inform MTAC Marin Discovery Scholarship of any changes of address or financial circumstances when they occur.

_____ Date _____
Parent/Guardian's signature

_____ Date _____
Spouse's signature (if married)

Completed applications and all relevant materials must be postmarked on or before **June 15, 2024** and mailed to:

Scholarship Chair, 117 Paul Drive, Suite C, San Rafael, CA 94903

Documentation Checklist:

- _____ Completed application form (required)
- _____ Student's personal letter (required)
- _____ Classroom teacher's recommendation (required)
- _____ Other adult recommendations (optional)
- _____ Income Verification (one of the following is required - check the type enclosed)
 - _____ 2023 Federal Income Tax Return including Form 1040, Sched A & C (if applicable)
 - _____ Current Aid for Dependent Families (AFDC) Receipt
 - _____ Last 3 months' bank statements (if self-employed 12 months or less)
 - _____ Other income verification, if none of the above are available.