



American Secondary School Scholarship Competition
Information for Candidates and Families in Croatia
For the Academic Year 2019/20

Important Dates

Application Deadline	Friday, January 18, 2019
Testing Days	Friday, January 25, 2019
Interview Day	Friday, January 25, 2019

How to Apply

Complete instructions and application materials are available online for all candidates:

<http://assistscholars.org/apply-now.html>

Please read *Application Overview* for a complete understanding of how to apply for an ASSIST scholarship. Students who are currently in the second year of gymnasium (10th grade) are eligible to apply. Please complete all application materials, make a full copy of all documents, and mail the original and a copy to reach the address noted below. Applications must be post marked by **Friday, January 18, 2019**, and those postmarked after this date will not be considered. Ms. Karla Golja Milevoj represents ASSIST in Croatia and will notify you regarding the results of your application.

Ms. Karla Golja Milevoj
Kapelica 75
52220 Labin

Mobile: 091 536 9383
Phone no.: 052 878 245
E-mail: karla.golja@gmail.com

Application Fee

An application fee of 20 USD in cash is collected upon arrival for the test of English language proficiency.

Test of English Language Proficiency and Interviews

As part of the evaluation, each candidate will be invited for two tests. First, each student will sit for an English language proficiency test. Second, each candidate will write an essay – the topic is assigned, and no advanced preparation is allowed.

After receiving the results of the English language and essay tests, reading the applications, and conducting the initial interview with Ms. Golja Milevoj, the competition committee will review the credentials of all candidates. Each candidate will be notified by e-mail if he or she has been offered a second interview. Second interviews will be conducted via Skype with ASSIST USA staff in February 2019. Decisions are released to all candidates by the end of March.

Program Costs

Each successful candidate will be offered a full scholarship at an independent school. The scholarship is meant to cover tuition, room and board at a boarding school or tuition and a volunteer host family at a day school. Tuitions at member boarding schools range up to US \$64,499 this year.

As with most international exchange programs, a program fee is charged to all participants. In Croatia, we ask that families contribute a program fee of US \$5,350 toward the cost of funding the exchange year of their son or daughter. This money helps to underwrite the expenses noted above, an orientation upon arrival in the U.S., and ongoing support from ASSIST throughout the year. Families must also pay expenses associated with the interview process, visa application, and any expenses incurred in excess of the allowance provided.

In addition to the program fee, there are personal costs involved for each student. We know that financing the program fee and personal costs can be a burden to families, and so we have established a sponsorship program to help pay for a student's personal costs. Through the generosity of committed donors, funds have been secured to cover the costs of the overseas flight, health insurance and spending money.

The intention of our sponsorship program is to encourage talented students, regardless of their family's income, to apply to become ASSIST Scholars. Each family is asked to complete the *Application for a Sponsorship*, and if you wish to apply for a sponsorship for your child, please also complete the *Family Financial Declaration* form.



ASSIST

Connecting America's finest schools
with the world's leading scholars

Updated 9/12/18

Applying for a sponsorship does not affect your child's chances of being awarded a scholarship.

Each year, ASSIST receives many more applications from qualified students than we have full scholarships to offer. In these instances, partial scholarships – approximately half of the school tuition – may be offered to candidates. The ASSIST program fee in 2019/20 for partial scholarship students is US \$32,250. Tuitions at member boarding schools in 2018/19 range up to US \$64,499. In 2018/19, 79 students were awarded full scholarships, and 95 students were awarded partial scholarships.

Purposes of the Scholarships

These scholarships are offered for several important purposes. First, the student gains tremendously and grows in significant ways. Second, we believe that international peace and friendship are advanced when people from different cultures spend significant amounts of time living and learning with one another. Third, the presence of international students greatly enriches the American schools in which they study.

For these reasons, all scholarships offered are for one year. At the conclusion of the 2019/20 academic year, all students must return to Croatia to continue their education, and they must remain in their home country for one year. We hope over the following years that you will share what you have learned with friends, family and fellow students.

Further Study

After spending a year at home, candidates may return to the United States for college or university study. A growing number of our students have taken this route and earned generous scholarships. ASSIST and the independent school attended in the U.S. will support the application with recommendations and advice.

Questions

If you have questions about any aspect of this scholarship competition, please contact Kristen Sullivan: kristen@assistscholars.org. We wish you well in your application.