

# The Emily Krzyzewski Center's *Scholars to College – Program Application*



## **Strong applicants are motivated to:**

- Excel academically in high school
- Pursue rigorous coursework at the highest level available
- Participate in quality extracurricular & summer enrichment opportunities
- Continue building strong citizenship, leadership and character
  - Prepare to attend a four-year college, university, or any community college/trade school that matches their interests and needs

The Emily Krzyzewski Center  
904 W. Chapel Hill Street  
Durham, NC 27701

**FAMILIES: KEEP THIS PAGE FOR YOUR RECORDS**

## **Scholars to College**

### **Program Description, Admission Criteria, & Benefits**

#### **Program Description**

Scholars to College is a free college-readiness program designed to prepare ambitious, academically-focused, underrepresented first-generation students from Durham County for success at a four-year college or university that best matches their personal, social, and financial interests and needs. Students attend programming at the Center and are supported by a College Readiness Counselor to enhance their academic, personal leadership, and socio-emotional skills. College Readiness Counselors act as mentors and advocates, supporting students in setting and achieving their goals throughout high school and building robust summers that include academic, career, and work/volunteer experiences.

#### **Student Admission Criteria**

The Center is committed to enrolling students who are the best fit for the support this program provides. We are seeking students who meet the following criteria:

**Income & Residency:** Because our program is designed to support students from Durham who face systemic barriers to educational opportunity, to be eligible for the program, students must live and attend school in Durham County, NC and demonstrate financial need according to federal income guidelines. Families whose students are selected for an interview will be asked to submit a copy of the most recent income tax return (sensitive information redacted) to verify their income levels. Families may check for eligibility using the chart provided (see page 4).

**Leadership & Character:** Students collaborate effectively with other students and adults, are contributing members of their schools and communities, display high levels of ambition and persistence in spite of challenges, and earn positive evaluations from their teachers and/or community leaders.

**Academic Focus:** Students have a history of academic success as evidenced by earning mostly A's and B's in school and consistently demonstrating proficiency on End of Grade (EOG) and End of Course (EOC) tests. Students should also demonstrate intellectual curiosity, commitment to their goals, and a *strong desire to achieve*.

**Family Support:** Successful engagement in the Scholars to College program requires that parents/caregivers make the commitment required to participate actively in the program, including providing or arranging transportation to programming, attending parent meetings, communicating with program staff, and partnering with the program to collaboratively support the student's development into a college-going student.

## **Program Benefits**

Students selected for this free, four-year, year-round program will benefit from guidance and support in the areas critical to success both throughout high school and in a four year college or university:

- Weekly Curriculum Nights with programming in the areas of personal leadership development, career exploration, socioemotional development, academic skill building and college preparation
  - 9th & 10th Grades: Monday 6pm-8pm
  - 11th & 12th Grades: Tuesday 6pm-8 pm
- 1:1 support from your College Readiness Counselor
- High School Course Selection Advising
- Subject Area Tutoring
- Career Exploration & Development
- Targeted Extracurricular Planning
- Summer Enrichment Program
- On-Site College Representative Visits
- College Visits & Tours
- SAT and/or ACT Exam Prep
- College Major Exploration
- Résumé Writing
- College Application Support
- Scholarship & Financial Aid Application Support
- Emergency funds available for help meeting basic needs

## **Completing the Scholars to College Application Process**

### **1. Complete the application packet and submit using any of the following methods:**

*Use the enclosed Cover Page as a checklist to mark all components submitted in your packet.*

**A. Submit a hard copy of your complete application at the Emily K Center in person or via postal mail**

**B. Submit a scanned copy via email to [scholarstocollege@emilyk.org](mailto:scholarstocollege@emilyk.org).** Use the subject line "S2C Application (Applicant's Name)". Use the "Notes" app on iPhone to scan documents if you do not have a scanner available.

**C. Fax a copy to 919.680.0309.** We will email both Scholar and Parents to confirm receipt of your application. Ensure the email addresses listed in this application are correct.

Emily Krzyzewski Center |904 W. Chapel Hill St. |Durham, NC 27701

Attn: Scholars to College

919.680.0308 x 2004

**2. Ensure that two core academic subject teacher evaluations are submitted.** Teachers may complete the Confidential Evaluation Form online at <https://bit.ly/ScholarstoCollegeTeacherEvaluation2028>

### **3. Check your email consistently-applicants will be contacted and informed of their application status.**

Applicants who will be considered for admission will be invited for an interview.

# Scholars to College Program Income Eligibility Guidelines

(applicable to students applying for entry for the 2023-2024 school year)

**Families must use their 2022 or 2023 tax returns and the chart below to determine their family's eligibility for either program**

**Income Eligibility:** To be considered for the Scholars to College program, a family must have an adjusted gross income (AGI) that is less than or equals 200% of [federal poverty guidelines](#) (based on family size). These guidelines are below.

After reviewing this chart, if you have determined that your family meets the income eligibility requirements (your adjusted gross income for the year 2021 or 2022 is less than or equals the amount listed according to the size of household), proceed with the application process. **Note that all applicants who submit their application will be asked to submit a copy of their 2021 or 2022 tax return with sensitive information concealed/blacked-out (Social Security Numbers, bank account and routing numbers).** The program will use this information ONLY for program eligibility verification purposes and will destroy all copies you submit at the conclusion of the application period.

## **Q: Where Can I Find My Adjusted Gross Income?**

A: Taxes are filed using the IRS Form 1040. Adjusted gross income can be found on line 11 of both the 2020 form ([bit.ly/IRS1040Form2020](http://bit.ly/IRS1040Form2020)) and the 2021 Form ([bit.ly/IRS1040Form2021](http://bit.ly/IRS1040Form2021))

## **Q: What if I am not required to file taxes due to disability, Social Security benefits, I earned too little, or other reasons?**

A: Please submit a Benefit Verification Letter or a document that demonstrates the amount of income earned in the year 2021 or 2022 (e.g. a w-2) along with your Scholar's application.

Household Size* Maximum Adjusted Gross Income (200% of Federal Poverty Line)
2 — \$36,620
3 — \$46,060
4 — \$55,500
5 — \$64,940
6 — \$74,380
7 — \$83,820
8 — \$93,260

\*For households with more than 8 people: <http://bit.ly/FPLGuidelines2021> | Source of information: [aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines](https://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty-guidelines)



## Scholars to College Program: Cover Page

### For your privacy, please do *not* detach from application

Only complete applications will be reviewed. Contact a staff member for assistance completing your application:

[scholarstocollege@emilyk.org](mailto:scholarstocollege@emilyk.org) or 919-608-0308 x 2004.

***All items above the dotted below should be submitted together***

Applications will continue to be reviewed on a rolling basis until all slots are filled.  
Meeting the priority deadline increases your chances of securing your spot in the program.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Grade (next academic year)? \_\_\_\_\_

### **I am submitting the following parts of my application:**

- ☐ Student Information page
- ☐ Parent Questionnaire
- ☐ Student Questionnaire
- ☐ Middle School Grades (see school counselor for assistance)
  - ☐ 6th grade school year
  - ☐ 7th grade school year
  - ☐ 8th grade: 1st & 2nd quarter report cards or electronic print-out (e.g. Powerschool) **\*\*NOTE: attendance record for 2023-2024 must be visible\*\***
- ☐ Middle school End-of-Grade (EOG), Test Scores (see school counselor)
- ☐ 2021 or 2022 Tax Returns
- ☐ (I've requested) a Confidential Evaluation from:
  - ☐ a Core Subject Teacher in Math or Science **AND**
  - ☐ a Core Subject Teacher in ELA (English/Language Arts) or Social StudiesTeachers will complete Confidential Evaluations online at

<https://bit.ly/ScholarstoCollegeTeacherEvaluation2028>

*(Look up your Middle School Staff Directory on their website or call the school to obtain the contact information of your teachers)*

### **STUDENT INFORMATION**

<b>Student's Name: Date of Birth</b> (mm/dd/yyyy):	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Student's Gender:</b>	
<b>Race/Ethnicity:</b>  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>_____Black/African-American</span> <span>_____White</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>_____Hispanic/Latinx</span> <span>_____American Indian</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>_____Hawaiian/Pacific Islander</span> <span>_____Multiracial</span> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>_____Asian</span> </div>	<b>What is the primary language that is spoken in the home?</b>
<b>Current School:</b>	
<b>Assigned High School:</b>	
<b>What high school are you planning to attend? (If currently in middle school):</b>	
<b>Student's email:</b>	
<b>Student Phone:</b>	

**Are you currently enrolled in the Pioneer Scholars program?**

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

**Do you have a sibling in the Scholars to College program?**

\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO

**Are you enrolled in any other community-based academic enrichment or college readiness program?**  
 (Please list)



### **PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION**

**Parent/Guardian 1 Name:**

**Relation to Student:**

**Highest level of education completed:**

☐ No high school diploma

☐ High school diploma / GED

☐ Associate's Degree / 2 year degree

☐ Bachelor's Degree / 4 year college degree

☐ Some College, no degree

☐ Master's Degree or higher

**Marital Status:**

☐ Single, never married

☐ Married

☐ Legally separated

☐ Divorced

☐ Widowed

**Does this parent live in the home with the student?**

☐ YES ☐ NO

If "no", please provide the address to the right.

**Parent/Guardian Home Address:**

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**What is your first or primary language?**

**Does your student qualify for free or reduced priced lunch?**

☐ YES ☐ NO

**Home Telephone:**

**Cell Phone:**

**Parent/Guardian Email:**

**Employer:**

(Write N/A if not employed):

**Job Title:**

**Parent/Guardian 2 Name:**

**Relation to Student:**

**Highest level of education completed:**

☐ No high school diploma

☐ High school diploma / GED

☐ Associate's Degree / 2 year degree

☐ Bachelor's Degree / 4 year college degree

☐ Some College, no degree

☐ Master's Degree or higher

**Marital Status:**

☐ Single, never married

☐ Married

☐ Legally separated

☐ Divorced

☐ Widowed

**Does this parent live in the home with the student?**

☐ YES ☐ NO

If "no", please provide the address to the right.

**Parent/Guardian Home Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Home Telephone:****Cell Phone:****Parent/Guardian Email:****Employer:****Job Title:**

(Write N/A if not employed):



## PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE

In order for the Scholars to College Program to most effectively serve your student, partnership with parents/ caregivers is essential. Enrolling your student in this program is a family commitment that requires: ● Providing or arranging transportation for students to the Center on each Monday evening from 6-8 pm for the 9th and 10th grade years; programming is Tuesday from 6-8 pm for grades 11 and 12. ● Providing or arranging transportation to additional programming opportunities as they are scheduled, including occasional Saturday events

- Attending scheduled Family Conferences and Parent Meetings (once each semester) ● Communicating with your student's support team to make sure we are all working well together to support your student's success
- Contributing your ideas, feedback and suggestions to help us provide the strongest possible program and getting involved to the extent you are available in parent-focused programming

Your responses on this questionnaire, in addition to your student's academic record and teacher recommendation, are used to assess whether the Scholars to College Program is a good fit for your student's and family's goals. Please answer each of the following questions thoroughly. Use the back if you need additional space.

**Name of Parent/Guardian completing Questionnaire:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1. How did you hear about the Scholars to College Program?**

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**2. Is anyone in the student's immediate family (e.g. parents/caregivers, siblings) currently pursuing a college degree?** ☐ YES ☐ NO (if YES, relationship to student): \_\_\_\_\_

**3. How many family members are in your household?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list household members below.**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Relation to Student</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Scholars to College is a program that has an income eligibility requirement. We require that families report income to ensure we are in alignment with the mission and values of our organization. View page three (3) of this application to determine your family's eligibility to submit an application. The information you provide below will be verified should your student be moved forward to the interview phase of the application process.**

**Please indicate the bracket in which your annual income falls using your annual adjusted gross income reported on your 2021 or 2022 tax return. If you are not required to file taxes, please report your annual income to the best of your ability.**

☐ \$0-\$10,000 ☐ \$10,000-\$20,000 ☐ \$20,000-\$30,000 ☐ \$30,000-\$40,000 ☐ \$40,000-\$50,000 ☐  
\$50,000-\$60,000 ☐ \$60,000-\$70,000 ☐ \$70,000-\$80,000 ☐ \$80,000-\$90,000 ☐ \$90,000-\$100,000

**5. Did anyone in your family receive unemployment benefits or a reduction in hours/pay due to COVID-19 closures?** \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yes**

**6. Based on your family's Adjusted Gross Income and household size, does your family meet the income eligibility requirements for this program? (see income eligibility chart)** \_\_\_\_ **YES** \_\_\_\_ **NO**

**If "no", are there any circumstances that affect your household income?**

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**7. If accepted into the Scholars to College program, scholars will be expected to attend a weekly curriculum night. For 9th and 10th grade it is held on Mondays from 6-8pm, and for 11th and 12th grade it is held on Tuesdays from 6-8pm. Do you anticipate lack of transport or conflicting commitments preventing your student from attending these meetings? (If yes, please provide the reasoning.)**

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**8. Which *specific* academic, social, or college preparatory aspect of the Scholars to College program do you believe will be most beneficial to your student; why?**

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**9. What are your hopes and expectations for your student immediately after high school graduation?**

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**10. How do you support your student through academic and homework challenges?**

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**11. Do you feel your student is being adequately challenged to perform to their fullest potential? Why yes or no?**

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**12. What are some of the toughest challenges you face as a parent in supporting your student's education? How do you minimize the challenge, and how would the S2C program support you in that?**

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**13. Of all your student's accomplishments, awards, challenges, and recognitions, what are you most proud of?**

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**14. Has your child been identified as Academically or Intellectually Gifted (AIG)? \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N) If so, in what grade level \_\_\_\_\_ by which school? \_\_\_\_\_ in which area(s)? \_\_\_\_\_**

**15. Has your child been subject to disciplinary action in school (e.g. suspension or expulsion)? \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N) If so, please share when and why:**

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**16. \*Does your student have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)? \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N)**

**If so, in which area(s) is the student being provided services:**

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*\*Students with identified needs may still be good candidates for the program. We ask for this information to ensure we are able to effectively support your student to succeed in a rigorous college preparatory academic curriculum.*

***By signing below, I confirm that the information provided in this application and on this Parent/Guardian Questionnaire is accurate and complete.***

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

Your responses on this questionnaire, in addition to your academic record and teacher recommendations, are used to assess whether the *Scholars to College* program is a good match to your goals and interests. Please answer each of the following questions thoroughly. Use the back of this form if you need additional space.

The *Scholars to College* program requires an intense commitment on your part. Although Center staff will work with you and your family to plan around your other activities, your willingness and availability to regularly participate in evening and occasional weekend programs at the Center is key. The benefit for you is that you will be in an exciting program that will help you grow into a strong college candidate and pursue and achieve your goals.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Which *specific* academic, social, or college preparatory aspect of the Scholars to College program do you believe will be most beneficial to your student; why?**

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**2. What are your goals for your life immediately after high school?**

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**3. What are your academic strengths? What have you specifically done to develop and maintain these strengths?**

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**4. What are your academic weaknesses? In what ways have you worked to improve in this/these areas?**

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**5. What are your hobbies and/or extracurricular interests outside of school?**

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**STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE continued**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Is there a topic or subject you are passionate about? What is it and why does it intrigue you?**

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**7. What awards or recognitions have you earned in school or the community? If you don't have any specific awards or recognitions, please share a personal or academic achievement that you are proud of.**

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**8. What are you most proud of about yourself?**

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**9. How did you spend the past two summers? What did you gain or learn from these experiences?**

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**10. Share a significant challenge you've faced, and how you overcome that challenge.**

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**11. What book/magazine/podcast/television show do you believe should be required reading/viewing/listening for all adults who work with young people? How would it help adults better understand youth?**

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**12. Have you been subject to disciplinary action in school (e.g. suspension or expulsion)? :**  
\_\_\_\_(Y/N) If so, please share when and why:

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**13. Have you been identified as AIG Academically or Intellectually Gifted? \_\_\_\_\_ (Y/N) If so, in what grade level \_\_\_\_\_ by which school? \_\_\_\_\_ in which areas? \_\_\_\_\_**

***By signing below, I confirm that the information provided in this application and on this Student Questionnaire is accurate and complete.***

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



