

2011  2012

TORNADOS RUNNING CLUB

High School Scholarship

Dear Applicant:

The TORNADOS RUNNING CLUB is proud to provide this opportunity to graduating Hispanic seniors. We developed this scholarship to assist hard-working, deserving students in pursuit of accomplishing their goals and aspirations. Through our own commitments of living healthy lifestyles and possessing a desire to give back to the community, we believe this scholarship exemplifies the lives we wish for all our applicants. We are happy to be doing our part to support students on their own paths towards becoming phenomenal benefits to their communities and society.

The TORNADOS RUNNING CLUB has a 23-year history of running excellence. Miguel Lopez began running at the age of 35 after years of cycling. He was joined by his brothers and several friends over the next few years of training and competing – hence the club was born. The TORNADOS RUNNING CLUB became “a running family” in 1988.

While the club enthusiastically embraces runners of every ethnicity, the TORNADOS have historically been Houston’s only predominantly Latino running club. We are a member of the Houston Area Road Runners Association (HARRA), which supports the greater Houston running community. To learn more about the TORNADOS RUNNING CLUB (TRC) and for additional information, please visit our website at www.tornadosrunningclub.com.

We thank and congratulate you for participating in the TORNADOS RUNNING CLUB High School Scholarship Program. Best wishes to each of you as you continue to reach your goals!

The recipients of this year’s scholarships will be notified by a committee member the week of April 23, 2012. Recipients will also be asked to attend our Annual Cinco de Mayo 5K race to be held on May 5, 2012 to publicly commemorate their award and accomplishment. Details will be provided upon contact.

ALL Applications must be postmarked no later than: April 16, 2012

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2011-2012 Tornados Running Club High School Scholarship Program



For Internal Use Only
GPA _____
Notes _____

Initials _____

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Postmark Deadline: April 16, 2012

HOW TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION

You may download the application materials at www.TornadosRunningClub.com.

CALENDAR

January 9, 2012	Applications are available at www.TornadosRunningClub.com
April 16, 2012	Postmark deadline for complete application packets
April 16, 2012	Postmark deadline for student applicants to submit their 2009-10 Student Aid Report (SAR) to TRC please refer to the application instructions for more information
April 17 through April 23, 2012	Application processing
April 24 – 27, 2012	Award recipients notified

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for a scholarship, you must:

- Be of ***Hispanic heritage*** - persons descended from Central American, Cuban, Dominican, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South American, or other Spanish cultures.
- Be a high school senior graduating in 2012.
- Be a **U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident** of the United States with a valid Social Security Number. All legal permanent residents must submit a copy of their valid permanent resident card or passport stamped I-551 (not expired).
- Be **enrolled full-time** in a degree-seeking program at a U.S. accredited college or university in the U.S., Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or Guam for the

2012-13 academic year (enrollment is verified in the summer/fall of 2012).

- Have a minimum weighted cumulative grade point average (GPA) of **2.80** on a 4.00 scale.
- **Must** apply for federal financial aid by completing the 2011-12 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants are evaluated according to:

- Academic record
- Financial need of college tuition
- Community service
- Personal qualities

APPLICATION PREPARATION

PLEASE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:

1. **Application (including essay responses)** (6 pages)– Use a computer or typewriter to complete your form. The minimum character size for all responses is 11-point. We strongly encourage you to type your application as it makes it easier for our selection committee to read; however, if you do not have access to a computer, you may neatly print the application in blue or black ink. **Applications that are illegible - contain incorrect grammar, spelling, or punctuation will be disqualified.**

Use the official application form or a photocopy of the form. Answer all questions. Confine your responses to the space provided.

Community Service/Volunteer Activities section: List only one activity per line. If the information you wish to list exceeds the allotted space, select those activities of longest duration or those most

meaningful to you. Please do not attach an extra sheet. If you have not been able to participate in any community service or volunteer activities, please use the space to explain why.

2. **Transcript(s)** – Provide an *official transcript* from your current high school (unofficial transcripts, progress reports, or report cards will not be accepted). Transcripts should include your cumulative, weighted GPA.

3. **Recommendation Form** – This form must be completed by an instructor or advisor. It may not be completed by a relative. Provide the Recommendation Form to the person who will complete it. Allow your recommender at least two weeks to complete the form. The Recommendation Form must be confidential. Ask your recommender to return the Recommendation Form to you in a sealed envelope with his or her signature written across the seal. Submit the sealed recommendation with your application.

You should pick a recommender who can address the following items:

- Academic record, plans, and goals
- Personal strengths: including motivation, leadership, and commitment
- Community service and extracurricular activities

4. **GPA Certification Form** – This form must be signed by your counselor or other school official, verifying your *weighted* GPA on a 4.00 scale. If your school does not use a 4.00 scale, please ask your counselor to convert your GPA to a 4.00 scale. Submit the signed form with your application materials.

Homeschooled and GED students, in lieu of the GPA Certification Form, must submit a copy of official results from either the SAT I or ACT test.

5. **Student Aid Report (SAR)** – As part of the application process you are required to provide TRC with a copy of your 2010-2011 Student Aid Report (SAR). The 2011-12 FAFSA will be available at www.fafsa.ed.gov after **January 1, 2012**. Student

applicants must submit the TRC Scholarship Application to the TRC Scholarship Committee with a copy of their 2011-12 Student Aid Report (SAR) by **April 16, 2012**. The SAR is provided to you by the Department of Education as confirmation of having submitted the FAFSA. The SAR may be printed in different formats but it must include all pages, **your name, SSN, citizenship status, and Expected Family Contribution (EFC)**. **FAFSA applications or incomplete copies of the SAR not containing the information required will not be considered valid.**

All selection decisions are final and are not subject to appeal. Applications and supporting documents become the sole property of TRC and cannot be returned.

POSTMARK DEADLINE

All materials must be mailed in one package that is postmarked on or before **April 16, 2012**.

Mail to:

**Tornados Running Club
High School Scholarship Program
PO Box 66723
Houston, TX 77266**

The **SAR** must be mailed to TRC at the above address postmarked on or before **April 16, 2012**.

NOTIFICATION

Award recipients will be notified of their status during the week of **April 24-27, 2012**.

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APPLICATION

Postmark Deadline: April 16, 2012

Personal Information

Last 4 digits of Social Security number		Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	
Name			
Last		First	Middle Initial
Parent Address (where you receive mail) All correspondence will be mailed to this address			
Address			
City			
State		Zip code	
Phone ()			
Primary e-mail*		Alternate e-mail	
* Carefully type or print your current, complete e-mail address, as we also will be communicating with you via e-mail.			
Date of birth (mm/dd/yy)		Country of birth	
Residency status: <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Permanent Resident – You MUST enclose a copy of your permanent resident card or passport stamped I-551 (not expired).			
Hispanic heritage (select one category that most closely characterizes your heritage):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Cuban <input type="checkbox"/> Dominican <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican <input type="checkbox"/> Mexican <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish			
<input type="checkbox"/> Central American; please specify country of ancestry			
<input type="checkbox"/> South American; please specify country of ancestry			
How did you hear about the Tornado's Running Club Scholarship Program?			
<input type="checkbox"/> Tornados Running Club member		<input type="checkbox"/> After school work program	
<input type="checkbox"/> Media (TV, radio, print)		<input type="checkbox"/> Advertisement	
<input type="checkbox"/> www.TornadosRunningClub.com		<input type="checkbox"/> Other websites	
<input type="checkbox"/> Your school teacher, counselor, career center		<input type="checkbox"/> Word of mouth, relatives	

2011-2012 Academic Year Information

Type of institution you plan to attend:

Four-Year College or University Community College

Institution where you plan to enroll for the 2010-2011 academic year (if undecided, list top choice):

Institution name (do not abbreviate) _____

Campus you will attend _____ City & state _____

Expected major _____ Expected degree Bachelor's Associate's

Desired career _____ Professional field of interest _____

Are you interested in Internship opportunities? Yes No

If yes, which fields interest you? _____

Family Information

Did either of your parents ever attend college? Yes No

Your marital status Single Married/Remarried Divorced Separated Widowed

Do you have any dependents? Yes No

Community Outreach/Volunteer Activities/Employment

List service activities in which you have participated as a volunteer **since January 1, 2008**, beginning with the most recent. If none, please use the space provided to explain why you've been unable to perform community service.

Activity/Organization (Avoid abbreviating organization names.)	Your Role/Position(s) Held	From (mm/yy)	To (mm/yy)	Hours per Week
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Do you work during the academic year? Yes No If yes, how many hours per week?

List the name and contact information of your supervisor who can attest to your volunteerism.

Name: _____ Title: _____ Company Name: _____

E mail: _____ Ph: _____ Alt. Ph: _____

Essays (Each essay must be completed in 600 words or fewer. You may type your essays on a separate sheet and include them with your application)

1. What has motivated you to pursue a higher education? Why is a higher education important to you? What are your plans and goals after you graduate college?

2. Does pride in your Hispanic heritage help you become a better citizen of the U.S.A.?

3. Describe the importance of volunteerism and how it impacts a society? Has volunteering impacted your life? If so, explain how.

Required Certification and Release (Applicant must read and sign below to be eligible)

Applicant Certification and Release of Information

- I certify that all information on this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- I certify that I meet all eligibility requirements as specified in this application and the accompanying instructions.
- I understand that I may only receive one scholarship administered by TRC per academic year. I understand that application materials become the property of TRC and will not be returned.
- I hereby authorize TRC to share or publish my GPA and application for the purpose of evaluation, recruitment, public relations, possible employment, or any other related activity.
- I understand that I must notify TRC of any change in my enrollment status or contact information. I also understand that a change in my enrollment status may result in the pro-ration or cancellation of any award.

Applicant's signature

Date

Application Checklist

Mail your application package by the **April 16, 2012**, postmark deadline to:

Tornados Running Club
High School Scholarship Program
PO Box 66723
Houston, TX 77266

Your application package must contain the following items:

- **Application** – pages 1-6, fully completed, legible, and **signed** (with essays)
- **Transcript(s)** – See *Application Instructions* for details.
- **Advocate Form** – in a sealed envelope with the Advocate's signature written across the seal
- **GPA Certification Form** – both student's and counselor's sections fully completed
- If you are not a U.S. citizen: A copy of your **permanent resident card or passport** stamped I-551 (not expired).
- **2011-2012 Student Aid Report (SAR)** must be sent to TRC by **April 16, 2012**.

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RECOMMENDATION FORM

(Provide this form to your Advocate)

Instructions to Applicant

Complete Part 1 of this form, and then give it to your advocate. Ask your advocate to seal your recommendation. When your advocate returns the form to you, leave it sealed. Place it with the other documents in the application packet, and mail it to the Tornados Running Club Scholarship Program: Attention High School Scholarship Program. Allow your advocate at least two (2) weeks to complete this form. Submit the sealed Recommendation form with your application by the **April 16, 2012** postmark deadline.

Part 1: Applicant Information (please print or type)

Name _____
Last First Middle Initial

Last 4 digits of Social Security Number: _____ Scholarship Program applied to: _____

Instructions to Advocate

Please complete Parts 2 and 3 of this form below and return it signed, with a photocopy, to the student in a sealed envelope with your signature written across the seal. All application materials must be submitted by the student by the April 16, 2012, postmark deadline. The Tornados Running Club appreciates and thanks you for your assistance. For further information about visit our website at www.TornadosRunningClub.com.

Part 2: Advocate Information (Please print or type)

Name _____

Professional title _____

Institution/Company _____

E-mail _____ Phone (____) _____

How do you know the applicant? _____

Part 3: Evaluation (Please print or type)

To the Advocate: The person named above is applying to our scholarship program. This evaluation is a critical component in our decision. For each category we ask that you: a) describe specific instances of the abilities, skills and attributes you cite & b) include any limitations as well as strengths.

How long have you known the applicant? Less that 1 year 1 year or more

How well do you know the applicant? Casually Fairly well Very well

Please rate the applicant on the following attributes:

(providing supportive evidence in the spaces indicated)

	(PLEASE MARK ONE)				
	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Extraordinary	Not able to comment
Curriculum Rigor & Academic Habits <i>(challenges him/herself, manages time well, utilizes academic support networks)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Supportive Evidence:

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Part 3: Evaluation (continued)

Please rate the applicant on the following attributes: <i>(providing supportive evidence in the spaces indicated)</i>	(PLEASE MARK ONE)				
	Below Average	Average	Above Average	Extraordinary	Not able to comment
Leadership <i>(ability to lead & motivate others)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supportive Evidence:					
Motivation & Long-term Goal Setting <i>(sets realistic goals & develops strategies for completing those goals)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supportive Evidence:					
Self-Awareness/Self Concept <i>(understanding of personal strengths & weaknesses)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supportive Evidence:					
Community Involvement & Extracurricular Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supportive Evidence:					

Overall Impression (please print or type)

To the Recommender: If you were making the decision to award this applicant, which of the following would it be?

- Seek out:** Will be a truly outstanding student & later professional
- Definitely accept:** Will complete his/her college degree at a superior level
- Accept:** Should complete his/her college degree at a satisfactory level
- Accept, with reservation:** Concerned about ability or motivation *(Be sure to explain why in your narrative comments)*

Please comment on anything else that makes this applicant special that has not been revealed thus far on this form.

Comments:

Advocate's Signature: _____ Date: _____ / _____ / _____

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GPA CERTIFICATION

(Provide this form to your high school counselor)

To Be Completed by the Student

This form is required. This form must be signed by your counselor or other school official, verifying your **weighted** GPA on a 4.00 scale. If your school does not use a 4.00 scale, please ask your counselor to convert your GPA to a 4.00 scale. Submit the signed form with your application materials. **Home-schooled students, in lieu of the GPA Certification Form, must submit a copy of official results from either the SAT I or ACT Test.** Please complete the information below and sign and date the release of information section. Ask your high school counselor to complete the remainder of the form and **return it to you** to include with your application.

Applicant's full name _____

Social Security number _____ / _____ / _____

High School name _____

High School City, State _____

Release of Information

I grant permission to release all information regarding GPA Certification or other application-relevant concerns to the scholarship grantors of the scholarship program, as deemed necessary by the Hispanic Scholarship Fund. I also authorize the scholarship grantors to share this information for the purposes of recruitment, public relations, possible employment, or any other related activity.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

To Be Completed by your High School Counselor

Please complete the enrollment certification below. Return the form to the student so they may include it with their application.

GPA Certification

High School CEEB code: _____ School District: _____

- I certify that the above named student has a cumulative **weighted** GPA on a **4.00** scale of _____.
(if grading scale is different than 4.00, please do your best to **convert** student's cumulative GPA to a 4.00 scale)

Signature and Seal of Authorized Official

School Official's Title and School Stamp

Date

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Phone