

Beat the Odds®

2021 Application Checklist

Both the Student and Nominator should review the application checklist for completion of all requirements before submission of the application.

Student Checklist

- ✓ Complete the student application form on CDF-MN website
- ✓ Double check the spelling of your nominator's email address - this is how they will be alerted to fill out their part of the application.
- ✓ Write your Personal Statement - No more than 750 typed words (see next page for specifics)
 - Upload as a PDF or Word Document (no Google Docs!) **AND** include your name in the title
- ✓ Sign the media release form
- ✓ Let your nominator know you submitted your application

Nominator Checklist

- ✓ Select a student(s) that meets criteria.
- ✓ Complete nominator application form.
- ✓ Write 1 page nomination letter on behalf of your nominee(s) that addresses the following:
 - Your reasons for nominating this student including a description of the obstacles this student has overcome;
 - The length of time you have known this student;
 - A description of how the student has demonstrated leadership skills
 - A description of any additional personal achievements the student has attained;
- ✓ Confirm that nominee application is complete.
- ✓ Commit to act as a liaison to help facilitate communication with your nominee(s).

Completed student applications must be submitted no later than
11:59 PM Friday, October 16, 2020.

Completed nominator applications must be submitted no later than
11:59 PM Monday, October 19, 2020.

Student Personal Statement Details

1. Each student applicant must write a personal statement, of no more than 750 typed words, that accomplishes the following:
 - ✓ Describes the major obstacles and challenges in your life and how you have overcome them;
 - ✓ Describes your past and current family, financial, educational and emotional support systems;
 - ✓ Describes how you have been able to achieve academic success or show marked improvement in academics despite your hardships;
 - ✓ Describes your commitment to serving others, for example, involvement in service clubs at school or community organizations or taking on major home and work responsibilities
2. Save and upload your personal statement with your **FIRST AND LAST NAME** in the title of the document.
 - ✓ Make sure the document is saved as a PDF or Microsoft Word document. The application system cannot accept Google Docs.
3. Complete and submit the *Beat the Odds* student application with all requirements including personal statement no later than **11:59 PM Friday, October 16, 2020**.

Please email btomn@childrensdefense.org with questions.