



## **Kansas-Missouri International Dyslexia Association (KS-MO IDA)**

### **Student Scholarship Guidelines**

**Revised: February 2019**

**Goals of the Scholarship Program:** Students with dyslexia/language based learning disabilities often fall behind their peers at school in reading - not just because they have difficulty decoding, but also because they cannot access the material in books the same way as their peers without dyslexia. To help close that gap and to help level the playing field, the Kansas-Missouri branch of the International Dyslexia Association is providing reimbursement scholarships for privately purchased student Learning Ally subscriptions. Learning Ally accounts allow students with dyslexia/specific learning disabilities in reading or reading comprehension to access audiobooks that also have a visual component to them, which can help both auditory and visual learners.

We understand the many expenses that are incurred in order to obtain appropriate, evidence-based remediation for dyslexia. These scholarships are intended to help offset the many costs affecting families by providing students access to audiobooks. Providing these scholarships helps the KS-MO bistate branch of IDA fulfill its mission: to create a better learning environment for students with dyslexia by promoting teacher training, parent support, and student empowerment. We take our lead from the International Dyslexia Association, whose motto is "Until All Can Read."

**Scholarship Committee:** The Scholarship Committee consists of a diverse group of parents and professionals, including KS-MO IDA Board Members, teachers and administrators from both Kansas and Missouri.

#### **Eligible Applicants:**

\*Applicant must be a current student in grades K – senior year of college with a diagnosed learning disability (private or school-based diagnosis).

\*Applicant must be a resident of Kansas or Missouri.

\*Applicant must have purchased a personal 1-year Learning Ally account subscription on or after January 1, 2019 and have the dated receipt for it to submit to the scholarship committee for reimbursement.

### **Instructions for Completing the Student Scholarship Application**

1. Register and pay for a Learning Ally account on the Learning Ally website: [www.learningally.org](http://www.learningally.org).
2. **Please submit the online application (including uploaded copy of paid Learning Ally registration receipt).** The application can be found on the Kansas-Missouri IDA website, <http://ksmo.dyslexiaida.org/>
3. Scholarship decisions will be made and applicants will be notified of their status by email. Checks will be mailed to scholarship recipients at the home address listed on the online application.

### **Criteria for Selection of Student Scholarship Recipient**

A number of criteria will be used to select successful applicants. These include:

1. Student resides in Kansas or Missouri and is in grades K-senior year of college.
2. Student has a diagnosed learning disability and is therefore eligible for Learning Ally.
3. Parent/student responses to essay questions on application.

The committee will make every effort to provide scholarships to geographically diverse applicants from across both Kansas and Missouri. **Scholarships are limited to 25 in 2019, so you are encouraged to apply early.**

If you have any questions, please contact the Kansas-Missouri IDA Scholarship Committee by email - [ksmoidascholarships@gmail.com](mailto:ksmoidascholarships@gmail.com).