

The Hank and Elizabeth Sames Scholars Program Application

To complete this application online, please go to: www.tamiu.edu/vpia/samesscholars

Student Contract

Student's Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Student ID# _____ School _____ GPA _____

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Mobile _____

Father's Name _____ Father's Occupation _____

Mother's Name _____ Mother's Occupation _____

Do you have any siblings attending college? _____yes _____no
(If yes) Are they receiving the Hank & Elizabeth Sames Scholarship? _____yes _____no
Are you eligible for free/reduced meal program? _____yes _____no

The following agreement must be signed before a student can be considered eligible for consideration to the Sames Scholars Program.

1. I must maintain 95 percent average or better in attendance.
2. I must maintain an academic GPA of 3.5 or better.
3. I must meet with my mentor as scheduled.
4. I will adhere to U.I.S.D.'s code of conduct.
5. I will apply to TAMIU upon my graduation as a senior from high school and successfully meet all University entrance requirements.
6. I hereby give my permission to have my name and picture used in any promotions sponsored by TAMIU or my school district.

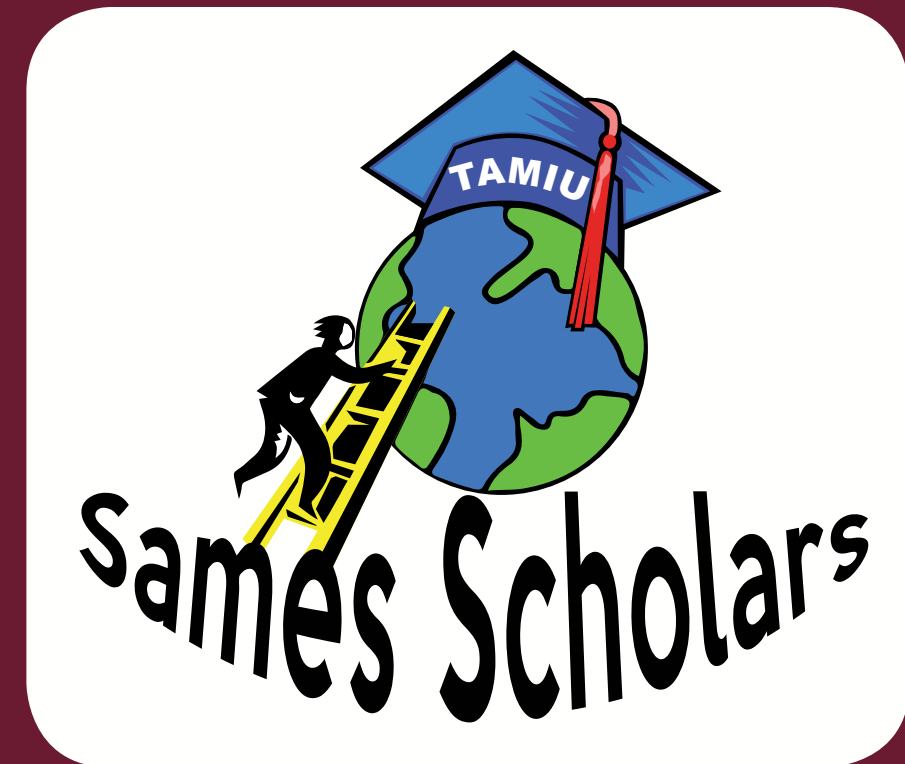
I (student) _____ agree to the conditions and guidelines listed above if selected to participate in the Sames Scholars Program.

I (parent) _____ agree to the conditions and guidelines listed above if my child is selected to participate in the Sames Scholars Program.

Date _____

A partnership of
Texas A&M International University
and United Independent School District

The Hank & Elizabeth Sames Scholars Program



Application Essay Questions

On a separate sheet of paper, answer each essay question (50 words per question):

1. What are four goals in your life, and how do you plan to reach them?
2. How do you see yourself today, and how would you like to see yourself in ten years?
3. Describe your strengths and weaknesses.

Submit the following documents with this application

- Three years of IRS returns
- Transcript
- Attendance records
- STAAR scores
- Essay questions

Parent Contract

I have read the criteria for the Hank and Elizabeth Sames Scholars Program at Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) and understand the terms of participation. My child _____ has my consent to participate in accordance with the standards, rules, and regulations of the Sames Scholars Program.

I authorize the United Independent School District, its employees, representatives or agents to provide any information regarding my child to TAMIU, as requested by TAMIU and required under the Program.

I hereby grant TAMIU and those acting with the University's authority and permission, the irrevocable and unrestricted right and permission to copyright, in TAMIU's own name or otherwise, and use, re-use, publish, and re-publish photographic or electronic portraits or pictures of my child in any and all media now or hereafter known for illustration, promotion, art, advertising, trade, or any other purpose whatsoever. I also consent to the use of any printed or electronic matter in conjunction therewith.

Printed Name of Parent _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Signature of Parent _____ Date _____



Further Information

For more information, contact your high school counselor or:

Texas A&M International University • Office of the Vice President for Institutional Advancement
5201 University Boulevard, Laredo, Texas 78041-1900 • 956.326.GIVE (4483) • all4tamiu@tamiu.edu

Sames Scholars Programs

- A committee of TAMIU representatives (one administrator, three professors) will select two perspective sophomores that have aspirations of attending TAMIU.
- The high school counselor at each campus will be responsible for coordinating monthly campus visits with TAMIU professor.
- Students are eligible to participate in the Hank and Elizabeth Sames Scholars Program, a college mentorship program with mentors from Texas A&M International University, during high school for as long as they continue to meet the following student responsibilities:
 - a. Students must be a U.S. citizen.
 - b. Students must maintain a 3.5 GPA or better.
 - c. Students must maintain 95 percent or better attendance.
 - d. Students must adhere to United Independent School District's code of conduct.
 - e. Students must meet monthly with University mentor.
 - f. Students must graduate as seniors.

- Eligibility Criteria:
 - a. Students must meet economically disadvantaged State criteria.
 - Submit three years of IRS returns
 - b. Students must be first-generation college-bound (first in immediate family).
 - c. Students must completely fill out the application form.
 - d. Students must have the time to meet with TAMIU mentor after school.
 - e. Students must master state assessments in reading, language arts, and math.
- Students completing the three-year college-bound mentorship program will receive a four-year, \$4,000 (total 16,000) scholarship to TAMIU upon successfully meeting all University requirements.
- In the event of non-compliance by a student, the four-year University scholarship offer will not be available to the student. The student must comply with all University requirements for scholarship renewal.
- Students are encouraged to participate in available programs offered by their high schools or the University such as DAP, concurrent enrollment, summer enrichment programs, Youth Entrepreneurship (YES) Camp, Summer Internships, etc.

Responsibilities of Mentors

The mentor will serve as a coach to motivate the student to accept the challenge of college.
 The mentor will serve as a counselor in providing timely advice for college preparation.
 The mentor will serve as a teacher by providing understanding of college life.
 The mentor will serve as a sponsor by providing career guidance.
 The mentor will serve as a model by being a personal example.
 (A mentor is not a pal or buddy on call for grievances and frustrations or available to serve as a mediator.)

Mentoring Relationship

1. Spend time discussing expectations and goals.
2. Determine tools/resources necessary for scheduled time.
3. Meet regularly at an agreed time and place.
4. Invest in the person and process.



Hank and Elizabeth Sames

To all participants in the Sames Scholars Program:

On behalf of my wife Elizabeth and myself, I want to personally thank you for your participation in the Sames Scholars Program. In 2002, my wife and I decided that we wanted to become more active in promoting education in Laredo. After talking to Dr. Ray Keck and others in our community, we realized that there was a real need to help students make the transition from high school to college. Many bright students in Laredo come from families that do not have a tradition of attending and graduating from college.

We designed the Sames Scholars Program to address this need and encourage students to continue their education after high school.

The Program has been a success with support from TAMIU and U.I.S.D. Currently, we have students from high school to University seniors participating in the Sames Scholars Program. The rewards of seeing students receive a University degree and become educated and productive citizens of Laredo will far outweigh its costs.

The Sames Scholars Program has been a model for others to follow, and we encourage others in our community to give their time and support to the University. We look forward to your participation in the Program.

Sincerely
 Hank and Elizabeth Sames

Hank Sames
Elizabeth R. Sames

A Texas Dealer and His Wife Offer Local Students A Chance To Change Their Lives Courtesy of Susan Pastor, Dealer World Magazine, December 2002

With six of their eight children in college or graduate school, Hank and Elizabeth Sames know a thing or two about the difficulties of getting a student through 12 years of school and into an institution of higher education. And although the two are college graduates themselves, they also know that these difficulties can be compounded when a student's parents haven't been to college.

As owners of Sames Motor Company in Laredo, Texas, the husband-and-wife team spearheaded the Ford Salute to Education program there more than 12 years ago and plan to continue their participation. But the couple wanted to do more for young people in their market area, which is located on the Mexican border and is about 95 percent Hispanic.

"By the time they reach the point where they're winning scholarships, these kids have already made it; they're going to college," says Hank Sames. "We wanted to focus on kids who might be intelligent enough to get into college, but who haven't had the advantage of parents who've been and who know how to talk to their children about the importance of education. They need help with the roadblocks that come up all the time. We want to eliminate some of those roadblocks."

With an outline of an idea, the Sames approached the United Independent School District and administrators at Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) in Laredo. Beginning with the 2001 – 2002 school year, a unique mentoring and scholarship program to encourage first-generation college students was established.



Mentoring Students

Each year eight local students entering the 10th grade, identified as having the potential for college but whose parents did not attend college, are selected for the Sames Scholars Program. They are paired with TAMIU faculty members, who meet with their protégés several times a year throughout the students' high school careers. In addition to the students' visits to campus, the mentors keep in touch by phone or e-mail. The mentors monitor the students' academic progress, give advice on curriculum planning and discuss possible fields of study. They also lend a sympathetic ear, offering praise when it's deserved and encouragement when things get rough. Although they have volunteered for the task, the mentors are paid a stipend through the program for time spent with the high school students. "It's a small amount, but it lets the mentors know they are important to us," Sames says.

For their part, the students must maintain a certain grade point average through high school. If they do, they will receive a scholarship of \$4,000 per year for four years that can cover the cost of tuition, and fees at TAMIU.