Eschenbach SCIVIS Space Camp Sponsorship – 2024

Eschenbach Optik of America, Inc. is proud to sponsor two students who are visually impaired to attend The Space Camp for Interested Visually Impaired Students (SCIVIS) 2024. The SCIVIS Campwill be held October 6-10, 2024 and is a 5-day/night educational adventure at the US Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, AL involving curriculum in space science, aviation, teamwork, and simulated space and aviation missions.

This is a scholarship program designed to provide two students with visual impairment an opportunity to attend the SCIVIS Space Camp with a fully paid tuition.

Eschenbach will be sponsoring one student for each of the following Space Camp programs:

**Space Camp Academy – For students in grades 7-9**

**Space Camp Advanced Academy – For students in grades 10-12**

Eschenbach has partnered with Dan Oates who serves as the coordinator for the SCIVIS 2024 programand is looking forward to your participation. This will be the 32nd year that the SCIVIS program has been running and we are excited to provide two students with this incredible experience.

**Rules & Regulations**  
  
NOTE:  PLEASE DO NOT APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP IF YOU DO NOT MEET THE CRITERIA OF THE SPONSORSHIP.     
  
1.  Students who are visually impaired may apply from the age of 12 to 18 years of age (Grades 7-12 at time of camp).  Students must provide documentation of current enrollment.  University students (post high school by US standards) are not eligible.  Students who are older than 18 who are enrolled in high school are eligible with proper documentation.  If younger students wish to attend this should not be their first trip away from home or their first camp experience.

2.  Students must provide documentation from a medical doctor, preferably an optometrist or an ophthalmologist with the cause of the low vision and the current visual functioning, i.e., 20/100 acuity, 30-degree field of view, etc.  This report must be clearly legible and contain contact information for the medical professional so the report can be verified.  Please include an email address for the medical professional.

3.  Only students from the United States and Canada are eligible.  
  
4.  Students MUST have the ability to read, speak, and understand English.  Fluency is required! The need to quickly learn new technology will be required.  Large print materials and electronic magnification devices will be readily available.

5.  Students should have an interest in math and science to participate in this program.  Future plans for a career in STEM related fields should be mentioned and are relevant to the application process.  Information about Space Camp for Interested Visually Impaired Students (SCIVIS) can be found at <http://www.scivis.org>.  Information about Space Camp®, in general, and can be found at <http://www.spacecamp.com>.  
  
6.  All travel will be coordinated through a travel agency in the U. S.  Chaperones accompanying students may or may not be eligible for funding.  Chaperones cannot be parents and must be professional educators who have had a history working with the applicant and/or in the field of blindness and low vision.  Accompanying chaperones are not a requirement.  
  
7.  Selection will take place after July 15, 2024 and applicants will be notified as soon as possible to allow ample time for travel arrangements to be confirmed.  

**Space Camp Details:**

Two students will be selected to attend SCIVIS Space camp 2024, one student in each program (Space Camp Academy and Space Camp Advanced Academy). Once the students are selected, the student’s parents will be responsible for on-line registration for their child. Tuition and airfare will be paid for by Eschenbach for the two students, each not to exceed $2,500 in expenses in total. All materials must be turned in by the deadline of July 15, 2024 to insure application consideration to the team.

Teachers of the visually impaired will serve as chaperones for the trip. Parents of the students selected cannot be chaperones. Space Camp is an exciting learning experience, it is also physically and emotionally demanding of all children. The schedule begins early in the morning (about 7 am) and ends late at night (about 9 or 10 PM or later). Independence requiring daily living skills, i.e., bed making, hygiene, eating skills, etc., are a must. Rooms are inspected daily and need to be kept clean and orderly. Please consider those qualifications before talking to your student about the week’s adventure.

All students should bring their personal telescopes, magnifiers, and other low vision devices with them to Space Camp. Large print literature is provided at Space Camp for the students to use on their mission as well. Screen enlargement software for Advanced Academy Mission Control is being provided by the West Virginia School for the Blind and the U.S. Space and Rocket Center. SCUBA diving is available to those students in the Advanced Academy only. Diving is contingent upon the diver’s health the day of the scheduled dive. The medical staff at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center will determine this on the day of.

Students who are applying to the Advanced Academy program should excel in their science and math classes and be strongly considering college as a post-graduate alternative. Students can earn one college credit for completion of the Advanced Academy program for up to three years of attendance. (*Keyboarding skills are required for the Advanced Academy program.)*

Please contact Dan Oates with any questions at 304-851-5680 or [scivis.oates@gmail.com](mailto:scivis.oates@gmail.com)

Eschenbach SCIVIS Space Camp Sponsorship Application

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ MIDDLE:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ LAST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: CITY:

STATE: ZIP: COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: WORK or CELL PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS: DOB:

GRADE ENROLLED, FALL 2024:

SCHOOL PRESENTLY ATTENDING:

HAVE YOU PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED SPACE CAMP? PLEASE LIST YEARS AND PROGRAMS ATTENDED   
  
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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NAME OF THE PERSON MOST DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH YOUR VISION PROBLEM, (i.e., vision teacher, resource room teacher, special education director, etc.)

PLEASE LIST THE ABOVE PERSON’S ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER:

REASON FOR VISION LOSS (Include eye condition and other pertinent information. Please be specific):

VISUAL ACUITY: OD: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ OS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ OU: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

OTHER HANDICAPPING CONDITIONS (Please be specific, physical disability, etc.):

**Primary Reading Mode**: BRAILLE: \_\_\_ LARGE PRINT: \_\_\_ REG. PRINT: \_\_\_ TAPE: \_\_\_

**Applying For:**  Space Camp Academy: \_\_\_ Space Camp Advanced Academy: \_\_\_

(Grade 7-10) (Grade 9-12)

Parent or Guardian's Signature Date

#### ESSAY 1

#### Please write no less than 300 words detailing where you live, where you go to school, and why you would like to attend the SCIVIS Space Camp.  NOTE: this essay will be the primary document to determine your selection (pictures may be included).

#### ESSAY 2

Please write no less than 300 words detailing your visual condition or why you do not see well. In living with this condition, please share some of the positive and negative aspects that you encounter during a regular day at home and at school.

**Please return the Sponsorship Application and 2 Essays by July 15, 2024. You can mail or email them to Dan Oates, 190 Armstrong St., Romney, WV 26757, Cell 304-851-5680,** [**scivis.oates@gmail.com**](mailto:scivis.oates@gmail.com)

Dear Student:

We are excited to offer this sponsorship to you for an amazing experience at the SCIVIS Space Camp. Requirements to be eligible for the program are as follows:

1. Have an increased interest in math, science, and space science
2. Have good grades in school
3. Be mature and self-sufficient in an away from home camp environment
4. Meet eligibility requirements for services for blind and visually impaired as determined by Policy 2419*.* Advanced Academy participants, (grades 10-12), must be seriously considering a college education.
5. Be able to travel during the camp dates of October 6-10, 2024. (This trip takes place during the school year. Please check with your school system to make sure you can attend and travel out-of-state before applying for this scholarship.)
6. All applications, forms and essays must be received before the July 15, 2024.

For your best chance at selection your packet should include:

1. Application completely filled out
2. Essay 1
3. Essay 2

If selected, you will join a group of other students with visual disabilities from the United States and Canada in Huntsville, Alabama from October 6-10, 2024. All expenses for travel to and from Huntsville, Alabama will be paid as part of the Eschenbach sponsorship.

We would love to have you as part of the team this year, but your application does require some work and time. So, if you are interested, get busy and return everything by July 15, 2024.

Thank you,

The Eschenbach Team



[www.eschenbach.com](http://www.eschenbach.com) | (800) 487-5389