



The 14th annual **Florida College Student of the Year Award** recognizes outstanding Florida college students who are *leaders* and is not based on financial need. The 20 students honored annually are involved in campus and community activities and service, excel academically, and exhibit financial self-reliance by working and earning scholarships to pay their way through school. For complete details, please visit the **Student of the Year** web site at [www.floridaleader.com/soty](http://www.floridaleader.com/soty).

## Official 2001 Application

This is a two-sided application form. Please see reverse side for complete instructions or visit the Student of the Year web site at [www.floridaleader.com/soty](http://www.floridaleader.com/soty).

<i>Last Name</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Middle</i>	<i>Nickname</i>
<i>Phonetic Pronunciation of Your First &amp; Last Names (if applicable)</i>			<i>Birthdate</i>
<i>Current College Attending</i>	<i>Major/Minor</i>	<i>Grad. Student/Senior/Junior/Soph.</i>	
<i>Home Phone # at College Residence</i>	<i>Work Phone #</i>	<i>Permanent or Parents' Phone #</i>	
<i>Address at College Residence</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip</i>
<i>Permanent Address (if different)</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip</i>
<i>Your E-Mail Address</i>			
<i>Social Security #</i>	<i>Your Hometown and State</i>		
<i>Cum. # of Credit Hours Completed</i>	<i>Cum. GPA</i>	<i># of Credits in Fall 2000</i>	<i>Fall 2000 GPA</i>

***I certify that all of the information I have provided herein is accurate and true.***

*Applicant's Signature* \_\_\_\_\_ *Date* \_\_\_\_\_

*How Did You Hear About the Florida College Student of the Year Award?*

### **SEND COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKET TO:**

2001 Florida College Student of the Year Award □ c/o Florida Leader magazine □ P.O. Box 14081, Gainesville, FL 32604-2081

**All applications must be postmarked by February 1, 2001**  
**Have questions not answered by the application form or at the web site?**  
**Please call (352) 373-6907 or send e-mail to [info@studentleader.com](mailto:info@studentleader.com).**

**IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS:** It is permissible to make copies of this application. All required materials must be submitted as one complete packet. Applications must be submitted using the official form. Applications must be postmarked by February 1, 2001. Applications received via express mail delivery services (including Fed-X, UPS, U.S. Postal Service Express Mail, and/or others) are not eligible. U.S. Post Office "two-day priority mail" delivery is accepted. Applications received without proper postage will not be accepted. All instructions must be followed exactly or the application will not be considered. All materials become property of Florida Leader magazine and may be used for publication. Materials will not be returned unless accompanied by specific request and proper return postage and envelope.

7/5/00 **This is a two-sided application form. Please see reverse side for complete instructions and visit the Student of the Year web site at [www.floridaleader.com/soty](http://www.floridaleader.com/soty).**

# Eligibility Requirements

This is a two-sided application form. Please see front for complete instructions and visit the Student of the Year web site at [www.floridaleader.com/soty](http://www.floridaleader.com/soty).

✓ Applicants will be judged on three main criteria: academic excellence, financial self-reliance, and community and campus service. Although all of the criteria are important, individual judges may assign different weight to each of the criteria.

✓ **Financial need is not a requirement.**

✓ Applicants must be currently enrolled at any Florida-based community college, private university, state university, or accredited vocational, technical, or business school. The school and individual campus at which you are enrolled also must be located physically in Florida and it must be currently distributing copies of *Florida Leader*. Transcripts must show evidence of progress toward a college degree during the 2000-2001 school year. Please mail an official school transcript in your packet or separately from the school by Feb. 1, 2001.

✓ Applicants must attend school at least half-time (six credit hours or more during each of the prior fall and current spring terms), and have completed at least 12 credit hours during the previous calendar year (spring 2000, summer 2000, fall 2000). Summer semester attendance is not required. Applicants must be enrolled during the spring 2001 semester. Fall 2000 graduates are not eligible unless they are enrolled in a post-graduate program during the spring semester.

✓ Students with fewer than 30 total completed credit hours are not eligible. Part-time students are eligible. Seniors graduating at the end of the spring 2001 term are eligible. Graduate and doctoral students are eligible. Non-American citizens are eligible. Nontraditional students are eligible. Distance-learning students are eligible. Community college students are eligible.

✓ **Applicants must have a minimum current cumulative GPA of 3.25.** Graduate students must currently have a 3.25 GPA, as well as a 3.25 cumulative GPA as an undergraduate to be eligible. Graduate students must include transcripts for both graduate and undergraduate studies. Cumulative GPAs for all applicants include all college credits earned over the last five years. High school GPAs are not considered.

✓ **Applicants must demonstrate financial self-reliance by working and/or receiving scholarships.** Students receiving grants or loans also are eligible. The judges appreciate and wish to recognize self-reliant campus leaders.

✓ **Applicants must provide a record of involvement and leadership in college activities, community service, political activism, and/or philanthropic involvement,** including specific dates, positions held, and job descriptions. Service does not have to be completed in Florida, but it is

preferred. Priority is given to current activities. Do not include high school activities or accomplishments.

✓ **Applicants do not have to be nominated by their colleges to be eligible.** Students are permitted and encouraged to apply on their own. There is no limit to the number of applicants who can enter from a particular institution.

✓ Applicants must agree, if selected as one of the 20 winners, to attend the awards ceremony and leadership retreat in Tallahassee on April 13 and 14, 2001.

✓ The following individuals are not eligible: current employees or relatives of employees of *Florida Leader* magazine, Oxendine Publishing, Inc., College Student of the Year, Inc., or any co-sponsor.

✓ Thirteen honorable mention winners and seven finalists will be chosen and will share scholarships and prizes valued at more than \$50,000.

✓ Even the most attractive proposal packets will be disassembled during the review process. An emphasis on substance rather than on presentation is encouraged. Proposal materials should not be bound or inserted in protective sleeves.

✓ Travel and hotel expenses to attend the awards ceremony are the responsibility of each applicant, although some or all expenses may be covered by the applicant's institution and/or by sponsors.

✓ Winners agree to allow *Florida Leader* to use their names, applications, voices, and/or likenesses in subsequent articles and/or public relations materials.

✓ Income taxes on all prizes awarded are the sole responsibility of the recipients.

✓ The judges reserve the right to exclude potential or current honorees whose applications prove to be false or misleading, before or after the judging process.

## Winner Notification

✓ All winners will be notified by mail.

✓ Entrants will be notified of the status of their applications usually within four weeks of February 1, only if a self-addressed envelope with proper postage is included in the application packet.

✓ If you want your entire application packet returned, you must send an additional envelope of the correct size with the proper postage.

✓ Because of the volume of applications, it is not feasible for College Student of the Year, Inc. to engage in written and telephone correspondence with applicants regarding reasons for choosing or not choosing award recipients.

## How To Enter

(Please Follow These Instructions Exactly)

1. Include a typed, 500 to 600 word essay (approximately two pages, double-spaced) written by you addressing this topic: "What I have accomplished that makes a difference at my college and in my community." **Specifically state what difference you have made, not just what you have done.**

2. Include a typed resume, detailing your involvement in college (high school activities should not be included). List specific dates and types of activities by semester, including community and campus service, political activism, philanthropies, awards, and/or honors. Please describe terms of office, officer or committee titles, and your responsibilities within each group. Note any groups or organizations you founded, describe growth under your leadership, and cite any special projects or activities. Letters or signatures from advisors are not required. Service need not be completed in Florida, but it is preferred.

3. Include a separate detail of your work history, annual earnings, scholarships received, and personal, academic, and housing expenses while attending college. **Specify exactly how you meet college expenses.** Example: "60% of my expenses are covered by two part-time jobs, 10% is met by scholarships, 10% is paid by financial aid, and the rest is paid by my parents."

4. Include official, sealed college transcripts from your current institution. Transcripts from previous institutions you have attended or from which you

transferred in the past five years must be enclosed. Transcripts may be sent separately by your institutions, but still must be postmarked by February 1.

5. On a separate sheet, list exactly two names of persons not related to you. Provide only their names, titles, and telephone numbers. These references do not need to write letters.

6. Include exactly two letters of recommendation, which confirm your eligibility and suitability for the award. The letters must be originals, not photocopies, and must be addressed to the Florida College Student of the Year Award. The letters may be from civic leaders, faculty or administration members, or others. **The letters may not be written by the same individuals whom you list as references.** All letters must include the writer's return mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

7. Include a current color "head-and-shoulders" 5x7 portrait photo of yourself which may be used for publication. If a color photo is not available, a clear black and white photo is acceptable. The photo must be an original print, not a color copy of a photo or a photo taken from a publication already printed.

8. **Optional**—Include no more than 30 pages of additional information such as newspaper clippings, letters, and/or copies of awards and certificates that highlight your achievements as an individual and as a member of groups.

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