



SAM DAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP • 2026



**SAM DAY
FOUNDATION**

Up to three graduating Sunset High School (SHS) students will be awarded up to \$3,000 to be used for fees associated with attending a four-year higher learning institution or accredited trade school. Applications are due in the SHS College and Career Center by April 15, 2026.

Sam Day and The Sam Day Foundation

The brutality of cancer treatment is something a kid should never have to experience. But in September of 2010, nine-year-old Sam Day was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma, a rare and relentless bone cancer. For six years Sam endured multiple treatment regimens, clinical trials, and 20 surgeries. During his six-year battle, Sam's family and friends began to raise funds for the development of a targeted drug for Ewing Sarcoma in the hopes that Sam would live long enough to receive that new and promising treatment. Sam died on August 27, 2016 at age 15, never having the opportunity to receive that breakthrough drug.

The Sam Day Foundation was formed in response to the commitment of a community of people who loved Sam and are compelled to fight for other young people enduring treatment for rare, hard-to-treat cancers. ***We advance research for childhood and young adult cancers, and facilitate wellness-centered support and experiences so kids with cancer can survive and live well.***

The Sam Day Memorial Scholarship

Sam lived with cancer for six years, engaging in life-giving activities in between treatments or whenever the disease was stable. Whether Sam was at school, summer camp, youth group, or with dear friends, he continued to reveal a spirit that chose to dream big, laugh often, and live well. Sam loved the broader Sunset High School community and considered himself an Apollo. He served as the Cram-the-Stands Ambassador during his battle and dreamed of becoming a physician. Sam never gave up and wanted to change the world.

The Sam Day Memorial Scholarship will celebrate students who demonstrate a similar spirit of overcoming, finding hope and living well during their own chronic illness or physical disability.

APPLICATION CRITERIA

- Graduating student of Sunset High School with at least two years of attendance at Sunset High School
- Admitted to a four-year institution of higher education (special consideration available for trade school attendees)
- Demonstrated history of overcoming a chronic illness or physical disability including documentation from a treating physician
 - Applicants will need to demonstrate a chronic illness or physical disability which interferes with the demands and opportunities provided by the education system. Special consideration will be given to; cancer and cancer related impairments, cystic fibrosis, autoimmune disorders, cerebral palsy, amputation, or other debilitating childhood physical challenges.

Selection Criteria

- Student submitted transcript and Activities and Awards sheet
- Student submitted video or written statement sharing their personal story of overcoming, finding hope, and living well
- Recommendation submitted by a Sunset High School staff member, medical professional, or clergy member
- Personal interview with Sam Day Foundation scholarship committee

APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

1. Please submit copies of your transcript and activities and awards sheet.
2. Please include one recommendation to be submitted by the SHS staff member, medical professional, or clergy of your choice.
3. Submit a video (not to exceed 10 minutes) or written statement (not to exceed 2 pages) answering the following question.

How have you demonstrated your choice to overcome, find hope, and live well in the face of your chronic illness or physical disability?

Application materials can be sent to:

oonlamayfoundation.org or the SHS College and Career Center by April 15, 2025



SAM DAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECOMMENDATION FORM

The brutality of cancer treatment is something a kid should never have to experience. But in September of 2010, nine-year-old Sam Day was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma, a rare and relentless bone cancer. For six years Sam endured multiple treatment regimens, clinical trials, and 20 surgeries. During his six-year battle, Sam's family and friends began to raise funds for the development of a targeted drug for Ewing Sarcoma in the hopes that Sam would live long enough to receive that new and promising treatment. Sam died on August 27, 2016 at age 15, never having the opportunity to receive that breakthrough drug.

The Sam Day Foundation was formed in response to the commitment of a community of people who loved Sam and are compelled to fight for other young people enduring treatment for rare, hard-to-treat cancers. We strive to fund research for rare pediatric cancers and life-giving experiences so all kids with cancer can survive and live well.

The Sam Day Memorial Scholarship

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The Sam Day Memorial Scholarship will celebrate students who demonstrate a similar spirit of overcoming, finding hope and living well during their illness or disability.

_____ is applying for the Sam Day Memorial Scholarship. Please submit a letter of recommendation detailing your observation of how this student has overcome, found hope, and chosen to live well in the face of their chronic physical challenge.

Recommendations can be sent to:

oonas@samdayfoundation.org or the SHS College and Career Center by April 15, 2026

