

# Undergraduate

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## 2008-09

### THE FREEDOM

### FORUM- NCAA

### SPORTS JOURNALISM

### SCHOLARSHIP

### APPLICATION

*The Freedom Forum, in cooperation with the NCAA, is seeking scholarship applications from college juniors with career goals in sports journalism, majors in journalism or experience in campus sports journalism.*

**Awards:** Eight \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded to applicants in their junior year to assist them in their senior year of study. The program is specifically designed to foster freedoms of speech and press while promoting quality sports journalism education at the collegiate level.

The eight one-year nonrenewable scholarships will be awarded to juniors who will be full-time seniors in the 2008-09 academic year.

Applications for these scholarships will be judged by a selection committee determined by The Freedom Forum and the NCAA. In addition to completing the application form, you must supply the following information:

1. Your official college transcript.
2. Three published examples of sports journalism work. These should include examples such as newspaper

articles, program copy, published photographs, editorials and television and/or radio scripts. (VHS tapes, DVD's or CD's will be accepted.)

3. A letter of recommendation from a journalism professor or supervisor of your sports journalism work. (Faculty and professional recommendation strongly encouraged.)
4. If you have had a professional internship, a letter of recommendation from your employer.

**Deadline:** Your application must be **postmarked** by Friday, December 14, 2007. All materials, including transcripts, essay question statement, writing samples and recommendation letters, should be mailed with this application by the deadline to:

Sports Journalism Scholarship Committee  
NCAA  
P.O. Box 6222  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222

**Withdrawal Policy:** If a scholarship winner withdraws from school, the school must inform the NCAA. In the event of a withdrawal because of financial hardship, the NCAA has the option of holding the scholarship until the student re-enters.

**Please note: Incomplete applications will NOT be considered.** Before you mail this application, please ensure you have:

1. Completed the application form (including required signatures).
2. Enclosed official grade transcripts as of August 31, 2007.
3. Enclosed three published journalism (print/broadcast) samples relative to sports.
4. Enclosed at least one letter of recommendation.
5. Enclosed your essay question statement.

**Remember, the deadline for applications is December 14, 2007.**

**Any questions regarding scholarship applications should be directed to Suzy Hays at the NCAA, P.O. Box 6222, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 (317/917-6477).**

# Application Form

(Must be typed or neatly printed)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

College or University \_\_\_\_\_

Address (where Scholarship Committee can reach you)

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (where Scholarship Committee can reach you) ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) or ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

Parents' Names \_\_\_\_\_ Parents' Telephone ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

Parents' Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Overall College GPA \_\_\_\_\_ Journalism GPA (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Hours completed (as of 8/31/07) Quarter \_\_\_\_\_ OR Semester \_\_\_\_\_

Total hours required to graduate \_\_\_\_\_ Hours remaining  
(as of 8/31/07) \_\_\_\_\_

Major \_\_\_\_\_ Minor \_\_\_\_\_

Scheduled date of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Previous honors, awards, scholarships, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarships for 2008-09 academic year \_\_\_\_\_

Discuss your sports journalism experience \_\_\_\_\_

Career goals (If not a journalism/communications major or minor, please address issue of career in sports journalism.) \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you wish to pursue/choose a career in sports journalism? \_\_\_\_\_

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**Essay question:**

Please choose **(1)** of the three topics below:

1. To what extent is an NCAA college or university responsible for ensuring that its student-athletes graduate?
2. If a student-athlete is accused of a crime not directly related to his or her athletics role, should the student media at that school report fully, including name of the athlete on the accusation? Or should the student media wait until there is some formal action by civil authorities, the athlete's school or – if applicable – the NCAA?
3. Describe the role of a sports journalist in modern media.

As a person considering a career in sports journalism, what do you think? Please provide specific examples, quotes or data to support your view. Be certain to provide specific attribution in your essay for any quoted matter.

The statement, of not less than 200 words and not more than 500 words, should be TYPED on a separate sheet of paper.

The statement should illustrate your writing ability, define your opinions and provide the judges with any additional information you believe to be helpful.

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In connection with the Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, I authorize the NCAA to release any information on this application form and on my transcript to the selection committee, the media or the public for the purpose of processing my application or publicizing the scholarship program.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant

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**You MUST HAVE the following three signatures for your application to be complete:**

Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor of Sports Journalism Work \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_



Sports Journalism Scholarship Committee

NCAA

P.O. Box 6222

Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222

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