

Financial Aid for Student Tuition (FAST) Scholarship Program

*Sponsored By: TAWAG
March 9, 2006*

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I. Introduction:

FAST is a TAWAG (Tudelians Around the World Action Group) scholarship program that is designed mainly for needy students who meet the requirements and standards for admission to the program. Under FAST, TAWAG will pay each recipient for the cost of high school tuition for that particular school year of the award. FAST recipient/s who will be attending at a tuition-free public high school will be awarded with ‘**Modified FAST[®]**’. Under ‘**Modified FAST**’, TAWAG will pay for the cost of school required supplies such as: textbooks, uniforms, etc., the total amount to be awarded will not exceed the cost of the tuition for Immaculate Conception Institute (ICI) for that particular school year of the award.

II. Goal:

TAWAG’s goal for the FAST program is to increase the number of high school graduates in our town of Tudela and its barangays. The theme for this program is: “Raising the Educational Attainment Bar of Our Youth”--TAWAG is committed to help raise this bar through FAST scholarships. By having more high school graduates, we are essentially raising the educational attainment bar of our youth. Even though FAST’s objective is to increase the number of our high school graduates, TAWAG is determined that its FAST-sponsored graduates are quality graduates, both academically and socially. This will be achieved through rigorous requirements that are placed on FAST students and must be met or maintained. Although we strive for quantity, it is QUALITY that TAWAG will count the most and hopes to deliver to our community.

III. Eligibility:

The eligibility requirements for FAST scholarship are on file at the TAWAG Tudela Chapter (TTC) and are available upon request. The minimum qualification, however, requires that an applicant be a resident of Tudela for at least one year immediately before the applied for school year. Parent(s) or guardian(s) of any applicant must provide proof of residency and must have a home in Tudela. Note that requirements are subject to change without notice.

IV. FAST Season (December – May) and Important Dates:

- 1) December 01 – December 31: FAST applications will be accepted by TTC not earlier than December 01 and not later than December 31. For this purpose, December is the month before the school year that FAST will be awarded. For example, December 2006 applications will be for FAST 2007-2008 school year (This example will be the basis for the following dates).
- 2) January 2007: TTC will review applications and send its recommendation to TAWAG International Chapter (TIC) based in California, USA.
- 3) February 2007: TIC will review TTC’s recommendation and send to TTC the list of applicants approved for FAST.

- 4) March 2007: TTC will announce and issue FAST award certificates to approved applicants during the school ceremonies at the school where each FAST recipient is attending.
- 5) April 2007:
 - a) 01 – 15: FAST students who do not qualify for '**FAST Forward**' (see section VII) must reapply for a FAST scholarship for the coming school year. Application must be received by TTC within these dates.
 - b) 16 – 30: TTC will review applications received from 5.a above and send its recommendation to TIC.
- 6) May 2007:
 - a) 01 – 15: TIC will review the recommendations received from 5.b above and send back its determination to TTC
 - b) 16 – 31: TIC will remit funds to TTC. TTC will pay FAST directly to the school for the tuition cost for the first quarter, and quarterly thereafter. Under 'Modified FAST', TTC will reimburse the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the recipient for the actual cost of school required supplies with the presentation of receipt/s with the claim. TTC may advance monies to the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the awardees for the purchase of school required supplies under certain circumstances. This will be handled on a case by case basis and TTC will determine its approval.

These dates are subject to change without notice.

V. Number of Awardees and Funds Availability:

The number of awardees and the issuance of FAST scholarships are dependent upon availability of funds for the program. TAWAG does not make any promises that FAST scholarships will be awarded each year and for how many students. Additionally, TAWAG does not guarantee that current FAST recipients will be funded for the following school year. TAWAG, however, is committed to do whatever it can so FAST scholarships are awarded every year.

VI. FAST Students/Parent(s)/Guardian(s)--Responsibilities and Requirements:

- 1) FAST students must not be involved in any activity or use of illegal drugs or illegal substances in any shape or form. Any FAST student who violates this requirement will be dismissed immediately from the program and will be disqualified permanently from FAST scholarships and barred from receiving any assistance from TAWAG in the future.
- 2) FAST students must be committed to enroll each year with no break allowed other than the normal after school year summer vacation.
- 3) During the year enrolled, FAST students must maintain a grade average of at least **83** and must not have a grade of below **80** on any subject. Any student who is unable to meet this grade requirement will be subject to dismissal from FAST. The student, however, will be given a chance to make up until the next reporting period, and if he or she is unable to meet the requirement again at this time, TTC will review and forward its recommendation to TIC. TIC will review the recommendation and will provide TTC its determination.
- 4) Male FAST students must remain single while in the program. Female FAST students must remain single and cannot be pregnant while in the program. Failure to meet this requirement will be grounds for dismissal from the program.

- 5) FAST students must maintain a good moral character at all times.
- 6) FAST students must complete at least 40 hours of community or volunteer service during the FAST school year awarded. This may be accomplished or completed during the normal school year summer vacation with prior approval by TTC. The guidelines or details for this requirement will be issued to each FAST student by TTC.
- 7) FAST students must not use or associate the name of TAWAG, its logo, or any of its trademarks on any activities or events without prior approval by TTC.
- 8) The parent(s) or guardian(s) of a FAST student must sign a 'Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)' with TAWAG—MOA is enclosed. TAWAG will keep the signed original MOA and a copy will be given to the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the student.

VII. FAST Forward[®]: 'FAST Forward' is for current FAST students who will be considered automatically for a FAST scholarship the next school year provided the following conditions are met (FAST students that do not qualify for 'FAST Forward' must reapply, see section IV.5 above):

- 1) The requirements and responsibilities listed above.
- 2) An average grade of 85 or greater and have no grade below 80 on any subject.
- 3) Commit to enroll at high school with no break other than the normal summer school break.
- 4) Recommended by TTC and approved by TIC.

VIII. FAST-SMART[®]:

'FAST-SMART' is a continuation of FAST beyond high school. It is a college scholarship for FAST **S**tudents with **M**ajor **A**ccomplishments and **R**eal **T**alents (or FAST-SMART). Details of this scholarship program will be provided to each FAST student.

Prepared By: Roland Z. Otadoy, Date: March 09, 2006
TAWAG Advisor

Approved By: Arlene M. Baguitan, Date: March 09, 2006
TAWAG President

Enclosure(s):

- (1) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)