



2008-2009 "Go For IT" Scholarship Sponsored by ITAG

ITAG invites all high school seniors intending to pursue post-secondary education majoring in information technology, communications technology, or other technology-related field, to apply for the prestigious **ITAG Go For IT Scholarship** sponsored by the Innovative Technology Action Group (ITAG).

The Innovative Technology Action Group

ITAG's mission is to create and sustain a regional partnership in Southeastern Pennsylvania that encourages technology companies and companies that use technology to grow their businesses in an increasingly sophisticated global marketplace. This is accomplished by working closely with participating companies, economic development agencies, and education/training partners to leverage workforce and business development resources on behalf of ITAG members.

The Innovative Technology Action Group (ITAG) is an initiative of the Chester County Workforce Investment Board and the Chester County Economic Development Council with grant funds received from the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. ELIGIBILITY: The **ITAG Go for IT Scholarship**, sponsored by the Innovative Technology Action Group, is open to all high school seniors graduating in Spring 2009, whose high school are located in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Eligible students must:

- Be enrolled full-time in a public or state-accredited private or parochial school and plan to graduate in 2009.
- Have earned a minimum GPA of 2.50 documented at the end of their junior year of high school.
- Have been accepted at an accredited post-secondary institution with a documented major in technology-related fields.

The **ITAG Go For IT Scholarship** is subject to all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations and shall be governed by Pennsylvania law. All entrants who are under the age of Eighteen (18) at the time of entry must have the permission of at least one (1) of their parents and/or legal guardians to enter. By entering the Contest, entrants and/or their parents or legal guardians (if such entrants are minors): (i) agree to accept and be bound by all terms of these Official Rules and Regulations ("Official Rules").

2. HOW TO ENTER: From **December 1, 2008 through April 20, 2009**, ITAG will conduct a creative writing contest focusing on advancements in information, communications, and other technologies and the impact of technology on the future.

- To enter, participants must log on to the scholarship contest page of the ITAG website, located at <http://itagpa.org/scholarships.php>, download the document, and fill in a copy of the official entry & permission form (the "Official Entry Form").

The official ***ITAG Go For IT Scholarship*** entry and attachments including an attached HTML page that is the participant's contest entry, must be emailed to holmes@cceconomicdevelopment.com by midnight EST **April 20, 2009** with the email subject ***"ITAG Go For IT Scholarship Contest Entry"***. To be eligible, all entrants must provide a contest entry in accordance with the following guidelines:

- The contest entry must be in electronic HTML format.
- The contest entry must be a creative response to the following topic: "Discuss the ways in which a particular advancement in technology may impact the future within your intended career pathway."
- The contest entry must not exceed 1,500 words. (This limit does not apply to verbiage necessary for explaining links to Web-hosted content)
- The contest entry must include links to at least 2 external Web-hosted resources, created by the participant (webpage, blog entry, forum posting, wiki contribution, hosted video or audio file, etc.), as part of the contest entry's content, and in combination with all other textual content, is not to exceed 1,500 words.
- The contest entry must include 2 or more bibliographic citations as sources of research. (This is not included in the 1,500 word limit)
- The entry must include an electronically submitted unofficial transcript and proof of acceptance to a post-secondary institution with an intended major in any field in which technology is an integrated part. The contest entry must include the completed, official scholarship application.

No other materials will be accepted by ITAG in connection with the contest. All entries must be submitted in the name of an individual person and prizes will only be awarded to the person whose name is on each winning entry, regardless of other circumstances.

- Contest Entries must be the entrants' original, previously unpublished work and all entries become the property of ITAG and will not be acknowledged or returned and may be used by ITAG in any manner or media in perpetuity without compensation.
- Contest Entries must be written in English
- Contest Entries on any topic other than the chosen Topic shall be disqualified.
- Any plagiarism and/or failure to properly identify non-original material by an entrant will result in such entrant's disqualification.
- Contest Entries containing quotations or copyrighted materials which are not properly identified will also be disqualified.
- All words in the Contest Entry except the title, verbiage explaining links to additional Web-hosted resource content, bibliography and/or footnotes shall be counted towards the One Thousand Five Hundred (1,500) word limit.
- Contest Entries that ITAG and/or the judges deem, in their sole discretion, to be inappropriate or obscene will be void.
- Multiple entries from any person and/or duplicate entries will be deemed void.

ITAG is not responsible for misdirected, inaccurate, incomplete, lost, late, delayed, undelivered, damaged or illegible entries, and all such entries will be void. ITAG is not responsible for technical, hardware, or software failures of any kind, or other errors or problems which may occur in connection with or relating to the Contest; whether computer, network, technical, mechanical, typographical, printing, human or otherwise, including, without limitation, errors or problems which may occur in connection with the administration of the Contest, the processing or judging of entries, the announcement of the prizes, in any Contest-related materials or that may limit prize fulfillment or a participant's ability to enter the Contest.

ITAG reserves the right, in their sole discretion, to cancel, modify or prematurely conclude the Contest should any computer virus, malfunction, fraud, tampering, unauthorized intervention or other cause beyond their control corrupt the administration, security or proper operation of the Contest. If the Contest is cancelled, ITAG may, in their sole discretion, judge all eligible entries received up to time of such action using the judging procedures outlined below to determine either the Semi-Finalists and/or Winners. False or deceptive entries or acts will render the entrant ineligible and Sponsor/s reserve the right to disqualify any entrant (and void his/her entry) who attempts to undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest by tampering with any Website or other related Internet mechanism, acts in a disruptive manner or

violates these Official Rules. Any attempt by an individual to deliberately damage or undermine the legitimate operation of the Contest may be in violation of criminal and civil laws. Should such an attempt be made, ITAG reserves the right to seek remedies and damages (including attorneys' fees) from any such person(s).

3. JUDGING:

- A representative team from ITAG's Executive Board, Governing Board, and ITAG's participating companies will be responsible for choosing a winner from the pool of contest entries submitted by eligible seniors. The basis for judgment and selection will be the following criteria:
 1. adherence to contest regulations;
 2. originality, creativity, eloquence of writing style, structure;
 3. extent of utilization of the Web;
 4. relevance to the Topic;
 5. The decisions of the panel of judges will be final and binding on all participants; and
 6. ITAG reserve the right to choose fewer Contest winners than mentioned above if, in their sole discretion, they do not receive a sufficient number of eligible and/or qualified entries.

4. WINNER NOTIFICATION: The potential winners will be notified by ITAG within approximately three (3) days of determination either by the telephone number or e-mail address provided on his/her Official Entry Form. Winners must also meet all eligibility requirements, including the execution and return of all necessary releases.

- All school winners will be formally recognized by ITAG.
- The major prize winner(s) will be expected to submit an electronic photograph for use in ITAG communications related to the **ITAG Go For IT Scholarship**. Parents and guardians acknowledge that by their daughter or son entering the contest, permission is granted to use the student's photograph in all forms and in any media and in any publication or published format including but not limited to the Internet, video conferences, television broadcasts, podcasts, and print media related to the **ITAG Go For IT Scholarship**.
- Distribution of all prize money will be made directly to the student after acknowledgement of successful completion of their first semester at the previously specified accredited post-secondary institution by ITAG c/o 2009 **ITAG Go For IT Scholarship**, Chester County Economic Development Council, 737 Constitution Drive, Exton, PA 19341.

5. PRIZES: One (1) Grand Prize winner will receive a \$1,000 one-time cash payment that is to be used to pay for tuition, fees, books, supplies, or equipment in the pursuit of higher learning, in a computer-science / technology related field of study.

- No substitutions, partial acceptance or transfer of prizes permitted by Winner.
- Sponsors reserve the right to substitute a prize of comparable or greater value in the event a described prize, or any portion thereof, is unavailable for any reason whatsoever.
- Winners and/or their parents or legal guardians are responsible for the reporting and payment of all federal, state and local taxes incurred by acceptance and use of the prize (or any portion thereof).
- All prize details are at ITAG's discretion.

6. OFFICIAL RULES AND WINNERS' NAMES REQUESTS: For a copy of these Official Rules and a list of winners, please log onto the Website: www.itagpa.org

SPONSOR: This Contest is sponsored by the Innovative Technology Action Group (ITAG) in support of youth and the facilitation of education and training. ITAG is supported by the Chester County Economic Development Council (CCEDC) with grant funds from the Chester County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

<p>Samantha Park, ITAG Scholarship Chairperson Falcon Technologies, Inc. 565 Swedesford Road, Suite 218 Wayne, PA 19087 Phone: (610) 977-7508 Fax: (610) 977-7516 spark@falctech.com</p>	<p>Anne S. Morris, ITAG Project Consultant Chester County Economic Development Council 737 Constitution Drive Exton, PA 19341 Phone: 610-458-5700 x253 FAX: 610-458-7770 amorris@cceconomicdevelopment.com</p>
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Official Application

2008-2009 *Go for IT Scholarship* Sponsored by ITAG

Part 1: Applicant Information

Applicant:	
Address:	
Email:	Phone:
Age:	Birth date:
GPA:	Intended Date of Graduation:
Parent or Guardian:	
Phone:	Email:
Post-secondary Institution:	
Intended Major:	Date of Acceptance:
Admissions Office Contact:	
Contact Person	Email
Financial Aid Office Contact	
Contact Person:	Email

Part 2: High School Information

School District:	
School District Address	
High School:	Telephone:
Address:	
School Counselor:	
Email:	Phone:
High School Principal	
Email:	Phone:

Part 3: Attachments

Unofficial High School Transcript
Proof of Post-secondary Acceptance
Candidates Under the Age of Eighteen Years: Verification Letter from Counseling Department of Parent Permission to Participate

Part 4: Essay

“Discuss the ways in which a particular advancement in technology may impact the future within your intended career pathway.”

Essay Instructions:

1. The contest entry must be in electronic HTML format.
2. The contest entry must be a creative response to the following Topic:
“Discuss the ways in which a particular advancement in information technology may impact the future within your intended career pathway.”
3. The contest entry must not exceed 1,500 words. (This limit does not apply to verbiage necessary for explaining links to Web-hosted content)
4. The contest entry must include links to at least 2 external Web-hosted resources, created by the participant (webpage, blog entry, forum posting, wiki contribution, hosted video or audio file, etc.), as part of the contest entry’s content, and in combination with all other textual content, is not to exceed 1,500 words.
5. The contest entry must include 2 or more bibliographic citations as sources of research. (This is not included in the 1,500 word limit)
6. The entry must include an electronically submitted unofficial transcript and proof of acceptance to a post-secondary institution with an intended major in a technology or technology-related program
7. The contest entry must include the completed, official scholarship application.

Submission Instructions:

1. Students must submit completed applications to their school counselor no later than **April 5, 2008**.
2. The high school counselor / Counseling Department in cooperation with the district Technology Department must electronically submit the ***ITAG Go for IT Scholarship*** application, unofficial transcript, and post-secondary verification on or before midnight EST **April 20, 2008**.
3. If the Candidate is under eighteen years of age a letter of verification of Parent Permission to Participate attested by the counseling department must be submitted
4. **All materials must be electronically submitted without exception. Refer to contest rules and regulations.**
5. **Materials will not be returned.**
6. The school winner will be selected by a representative team through ITAG.