



Financial Aid

SPONSORSHIPS

As you seek sponsorships, keep the following in mind:

- Know what it is you are requesting. Visit www.educationinaction.org/lone-star-leadership-academy to learn about the program.
- Show potential sponsors your respect for them and the time they are allowing you by making an appointment to meet with them, at their convenience. Be punctual and do not take more time than is necessary.
- When writing to potential sponsors, double-check the spelling of their names and job titles.
- Offer to make a presentation to your sponsor(s) about the information you will learn while attending the program.
- Always send a personal thank you note after a meeting even if you do not receive a sponsorship.
- If your counselor or teacher is willing to write a letter of endorsement, include copies of it with your letter. Such letters give strength and substance to your request.
- Because Education in Action is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, tuition fee donations are tax-deductible. In order to be tax-deductible, donation checks must be made out to Education in Action. Sponsors may also donate to your Lone Star Leadership Academy camp tuition fee at www.educationinaction.org/sponsor-a-leader.
- Do not be discouraged if you don't receive a sponsorship from everyone you ask. With persistence you can achieve your goal.

Education in Action suggests a three-part formula for corresponding with sponsors:

1. **An introductory letter** - This letter introduces you, the Lone Star Leadership Academy, and your needs. It can help potential sponsors understand that this is an opportunity to help a young leader in a worthy pursuit. *A sample sponsorship request letter follows.*
2. **A follow-up phone call to set an appointment**
3. **A thank you note**

Possible sponsors include:

Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, Knights of Columbus, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Posts, Chambers of Commerce, League of Women Voters, Business and Professional Women, local political organizations, church groups, local banks, PTAs, local businesses, law firms, your school district's Education Foundation, schools, and your school board.

This is not a comprehensive list. It is provided to help you think of organizations in your area that are potential sponsors. If your sponsorship request activities have not produced enough money to allow you to participate, we may be able to suggest ways to redirect your efforts. You can reach our office at 817-562-4957.

GIFTS FROM FRIENDS AND FAMILY

If friends or family members are looking for gift ideas for your birthday, a holiday, or just because, you may want to let them know you would appreciate a contribution toward your Lone Star Leadership Academy camp tuition fee. Because Education in Action is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, tuition fee donations are tax-deductible. In order to be tax-deductible, tuition fee donation checks must be made out to Education in Action. Donations may also be made online at www.educationinaction.org/sponsor-a-leader.

PERSONAL FUNDRAISING WEBSITES

Crowdfunding websites such as www.gofundme.com can be a useful tool for getting the word out about your fundraising efforts.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Visit www.educationinaction.org/financial-aid for more information on this and other scholarship opportunities:

Texas Association for Gifted and Talented (TAGT)

TAGT offers summer enrichment scholarships of up to \$400 to students currently participating in a gifted program.



SAMPLE SPONSORSHIP REQUEST LETTER

Date

Sponsor's First and Last Name
Sponsor's Title
Sponsor's Business/Organization
Sponsor's Address

Dear Mr./Ms. Sponsor's Last Name,

My name is _____, and I am currently in the _____ grade at _____ (school). I am very active in school and community activities including _____. My overall grade average is _____. I have the opportunity to take part in the Lone Star Leadership Academy, an academic leadership summer program for outstanding 4th-8th graders.

As a participant in this weeklong experience, I will join a delegation of other distinguished students and travel to the _____ (Dallas/Fort Worth, Austin/San Antonio, or Houston/Galveston) area for a week of learning, leadership development, and visits to unique and historically significant Texas destinations. Each day I will explore notable Texas sites, learn about unique careers from professionals at sites visited, and develop my leadership abilities during leadership groups. In addition to improving my leadership abilities, I will gain self-confidence and independence and develop new friendships with other high-achieving students from across the state.

In order to participate in the Lone Star Leadership Academy, I need to raise an application fee of \$_____. This cost includes five nights lodging, all meals during the program, entrance fees, charter bus transportation during the program, one educator for every ten students, and all curriculum materials. I am asking you and others representing community organizations to help me with a donation of \$_____. Because Education in Action is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, your donation is tax-deductible and donation checks must be made out to Education in Action. Donations may also be made online at www.educationinaction.org/sponsor-a-leader.

Participation in the Lone Star Leadership Academy is an invaluable experience. Through my experience I will develop my leadership skills in order to become a more educated and involved citizen. I will gratefully share with your organization the knowledge I gain by making a presentation about my experience. I will represent our community with dignity and make your organization proud. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me. I would also be happy to meet with you at your convenience. Thank you in advance for any help you might be able to offer.

To learn more about the Lone Star Leadership Academy visit www.educationinaction.org/LSLA. You may also contact Education in Action directly at 817-562-4957.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Your Signature
Your First and Last Name
Contact Phone Number
Address