2016-2017 Family of the Year Essay Contest Application & Guidelines

The UTSA Family of the Year essay contest is intended to celebrate the supportive role families play in the lives of students and the University community. At UTSA, family is defined as individuals and group members who support their student. Family members include parents, spouses, partners, siblings, grandparents, cousins, extended relations, and close friends. While most consider support to be financial assistance, UTSA recognizes that it comes in many other ways to students.

Contest Guidelines

All applicants must complete the 2016-2017 Family of the Year Essay Content Application along with a Family of the Year Essay. The essay must be no more than two pages in length, typed, double spaced, with one inch margins and using a 12 point font.

All applicants must also be available to attend the Family of the Year Recognition Ceremony during Family Weekend on October 7, 2016 as a part of the acceptance process. All current, full time UTSA, good standing students for fall 2016, are eligible to nominate their own or any family by submitting a completed application and essay by 5pm on Wednesday, September 28, 2016 to Orientation & Family Programs. The nominated family must have a membership with the UTSA Family Association. For information on UTSA’s Family Association membership please visit www.utsa.edu/family.

Mail to:
The University of Texas-San Antonio
Orientation and Family Programs
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, Texas  78249

Or Email to:
orientation@utsa.edu

Or Fax to:
210.458.7477

Or Complete Form on:
UTSA Family Association RowdyLink

Essays will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Explanation of how student’s college experience would have been different without the nominated family’s support
- Evidence of family’s support for the student applicant's college success
- Evidence of family’s enthusiasm for UTSA
- Creativity
- Grammar

A selection committee consisting of UTSA faculty, staff and administrators will review all submissions. Once submitted, all applications and essays will become property of The University of Texas at San Antonio.

PRIZES

The winner of the contest will receive a total of prizes valued at over $1000 some items include:

- A gift basket with various UTSA gifts
- A gift certificate to a San Antonio hotel
- Six tickets to a UTSA Football Game
- A commemorative Family of the Year plaque
- Your Family’s photo and/or essay excerpts featured in the 2016-2017 edition of the Family Association Calendar
- Your Family’s photo and/or essay excerpts featured on The Family Connection newsletter and on the Orientation and Family Programs’ Wall of Fame
2016-2017 Family of the Year Essay Contest Application

Student Information

Student Name: ____________________________________________

Last                  First                  Middle Initial

Address: __________________________________________________

Street                  City                  State                  Zip

Preferred Phone: ___________     myUTSA Email: ______________________________

Banner ID: @ ___________     Number of hours enrolled for fall 2016: __________

Hometown: ___________________     Classification/Number of Hours Earned: __________

Family Information

Number of Family Members nominated including self: __________

Name each family member nominated, relationship to student, and state if member is UTSA Alum:

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>UTSA Alum/Graduation Year</th>
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Essay Information

The essay must be no more than two pages in length, typed, double spaced, with one inch margins and using a 12 point font.

Essays will be judged according to the following criteria:

- Explanation of how student’s college experience would have been different without the nominated family’s support
- Evidence of family's support for the student applicant's college success
- Evidence of family's enthusiasm for UTSA
- Creativity
- Grammar

Please submit a separate page for your Family of the Year Essay and attach it to the Family of the Year Application.

Deadline

The deadline to submit a completed application and essay is 5pm on Wednesday, September 28, 2016.

Disciplinary Standing Release and Authorization to Check GPA

I authorize Student Conduct and Community Standards to release any confidential files or information concerning my disciplinary record to Orientation and Family Programs.

I understand that this information will be requested upon application for the 2016-2017 Family of the Year Contest. I further authorize Orientation and Family Programs to check my GPA, which must be either at or above a cumulative 2.0.
I understand that I must be in good standing with the University during all phases of the selection process and thereafter.

If you agree with all of the above statements, please sign: ______________________________________________

Questions

Questions about the Family of the Year Contest or the selection process should be addressed to Orientation and Family Programs at Orientation@utsa.edu.