

The George B. Yasso Memorial Fund Scholarship

Background:

The George B. Yasso Memorial Fund was established by the friends and family of George B. Yasso following his premature death in November of 2003 at the age of 52. George's death came as a shock and surprise to many people in the Lehigh Valley, including, in particular, the Lehigh Valley youth sports community; much of George's adult life was spent working with and for kids, particularly in the area of youth basketball and the Hurricane Basketball Club, a program benefiting kids primarily within the greater Bethlehem area.

The outpouring of sorrow, sympathy, and concern for George and his family was both remarkable and gratifying. As a result, the Yasso family and George's close friends decided that it would be appropriate to do something to honor George's memory and accomplishments and continue his work and passion for helping kids develop the life skills that he embodied -- leadership, determination, tenacity, work ethic, loyalty, and dedication -- not just in sports, but in other areas as well.

To that end, the George B. Yasso Memorial Fund was established under the auspices of the Bethlehem Area Education Foundation. Each year scholarships are awarded to the Bethlehem Area high school seniors who exemplify the qualities and character that George embodied, valued and taught to so many kids during his all too brief lifetime.

Qualification:

Awards are available to any Bethlehem Area high school senior from Freedom or Liberty High School (and Bethlehem Catholic) who displays the qualities of leadership, determination, tenacity, work ethic, loyalty, and dedication which George valued.

The scholarship award is a check payable to the college or university of those selected to receive the award. The award amount will be up to \$2,500. Students are encouraged to apply on their own behalf or be nominated by teachers, coaches and advisors.

For consideration of the award, the attached application must be completed in full and submitted by the close of the school day on the date below. Mrs. Jean Yasso and her family, in consultation with the administrative staff at the high schools, will select the scholarship recipients.

Process:

Deadline for application submission is **April 24, 2026**. Completed applications should be received no later than Friday, **April 24, 2026** by email or mail.

Email Submission: When submitting a completed application via email, please use "Yasso Scholarship Application" in the subject field and email to TheFoundation@basdschools.org

Mail Submission: When submitting a completed application via mail, mail to the attention of Justin Amann, The Foundation for the BASD, P.O. Box 646, Bethlehem, PA 18016

Notification of Scholarship Recipients: Application and essay are reviewed by the Yasso family in April to determine scholarship recipients. Scholarship recipients will be notified in May 2026.

George B. Yasso Memorial Fund
Scholarship Application
Freedom/Liberty HS
Application Deadline: April 24, 2026

Student Name: _____

Support of Guidance Counselor, Coach or Advisor

Mr. Yasso valued the qualities of leadership, dedication, tenacity, work ethic, determination, and loyalty. This nominee displays these qualities and characteristics. I believe that this nominee is deserving and exemplifies the qualities and character that Mr. Yasso embodied, valued, and taught during his life.

Signature of Advisor

Attachments: Please attach the following, which will help us with the award process.

You should include:

- Transcript
- Essay – How have you experienced the attributes, qualities, and character embodied in the description of Mr. Yasso?
- School activities and academic achievements
- Community service/activities and involvement
- Future plans (include schools you have been accepted to and plans for study)

References: Here are the names (and any other helpful contact information) of two people you can contact for further reference (note to nominator – please inform the people you intend to have serve as references). Should not be a family member.

Reference 1: Name: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Reference 2: Name: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Contact Information:

Nominee's Name: _____ High School: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Email: _____
Institution Attending in the Fall: _____
Student Bursar # or ID: _____

Date of Application: _____ **Signature of Applicant:** _____

All information provided is accurate.