



2022 OMEGA Scholarship Application

Submissions due May 15, 2022

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OMEGA: Opportunities for Multigenerational Exchange, Growth and Action

Through the generous sponsorship of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) [AgeLab](#), [AlerisLife](#), and [AARP Massachusetts](#), the MIT AgeLab's Opportunities for Multigenerational Exchange, Growth and Action (OMEGA) program is proud to offer **five \$5000 college scholarships** to recognize the efforts that teens are making to create multigenerational connections. **High school juniors and seniors in the U.S. are eligible to apply.**

Each award will include a \$5000 college scholarship to the winning student and \$1000 to the winning student's intergenerational initiative to support its activities. The OMEGA Scholarship is intended to amplify and support student's contributions to building initiatives, organizations and institutions that connect teens with older adults. Up to two of the five scholarships may be designated specifically for applicants who have engaged in intergenerational programming in [Five Star Senior Living](#) communities.

Applications are due May 15, 2022. Winners will be announced in August 2022 and will be invited to present their work at a virtual OMEGA scholarship awards reception (specific date to be determined).

Any questions leading up to the submission deadline are welcome; students are encouraged to set up a phone call or Zoom meeting with MIT AgeLab staff to discuss the progress of their programs and applications. Potential applicants may also register to attend monthly [MIT AgeLab OMEGA Chat Hours](#) to meet with MIT AgeLab staff members and discuss their

applications. To set up a meeting or phone call, email omegamit@mit.edu or call 617-253-1894.

Background Information

About the MIT AgeLab

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology [AgeLab](#) is a research program started in 1999 to invent new ideas and creatively translate technologies into practical solutions that improve the quality of life of older adults and those who care for them. Through research ranging from longevity planning to caregiving, transportation, smart home, multigenerational work, and more, the AgeLab draws upon resources across MIT and applies user-centered systems thinking to understand the challenges and opportunities of longevity and emerging generational lifestyles to catalyze innovation in society, business, and government. Follow the MIT AgeLab on Twitter ([@MIT AgeLab](#)).

About AlerisLife Inc.

AlerisLife (Nasdaq: ALR) enriches and inspires the lives of its older adult customers across the United States by delivering an exceptional and enhanced resident experience to senior living and active adult residents, while also offering lifestyle services to the younger “choice-based” consumer. The company is headquartered in Newton, Mass. For more information, visit www.alerislife.com.

About AARP Massachusetts

AARP is the nation’s largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people 50 and older to choose how they live as they age. With a nationwide presence and nearly 38 million members, AARP strengthens communities and advocates for what matters most to families: health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment. AARP also produces the nation's largest circulation publications: AARP The Magazine and AARP Bulletin. To learn more, visit www.aarp.org, www.aarp.org/espanol or follow @AARP, @AARPenEspanol and @AARPadvocates, @AliadosAdelante on social media.

About OMEGA

OMEGA was created by the MIT AgeLab to support the development and growth of student-led programs and clubs that connect high school students with older adults. The goal of OMEGA is to strengthen relationships and promote connections across generations. OMEGA convenes student summits, virtual calls and other events each year in an effort to encourage students to connect across generations, brainstorm and share programming ideas, and to plan and carry out intergenerational programs and projects in their communities.

OMEGA Scholarship Information

Eligibility and Application Requirements

- Applicants must be current high school juniors or seniors attending a high school in the United States serving in initiatives connecting high school students and older adults.
- Applicants must be anticipating completion of a high school diploma in 2022 or 2023 and planning to pursue higher education at an accredited post-secondary institution.
- As part of the application we ask for information about your intergenerational initiative and community partner. An intergenerational initiative refers to the program, project, group, organization or club that you are a part of. A community partner is any organization or place that you may be working with in order to connect students with older adults in your community.
- A **complete** application for the scholarship must be received. Applications can be submitted through the form on our website (<https://agelab.mit.edu/get-involved/outreach/omega/>), emailed as a PDF to omegamit@mit.edu, or mailed to: The MIT AgeLab, Attn: OMEGA Scholarship Committee, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, E40-275K, Cambridge, MA 02139. **Please email us at omegamit@mit.edu or give us a call (617-253-1894) if you intend to mail in an application so we can keep a look out for it.**
- Applications should highlight what you have already done, not theoretical or possible future contributions.
- Photos, videos and other digital media documenting your program are encouraged and can be submitted as supplemental materials.
- **Complete applications must include a letter submitted by a recommender attesting to your contributions to**

multigenerational engagement, including how the scholarship match will be used to further the efforts of the initiative. We prefer to receive recommendations from supervisors, school staff, trusted adults, or community partners who can speak to the work you have done with your intergenerational initiative. **The letter should be completed and submitted by your recommender.** Guidelines for writing a letter are available on our website: agelab.mit.edu/omega.

An application will be considered incomplete and will not be reviewed until a recommendation letter has been submitted.

Judging Criteria

- **Creativity:** The extent to which your intergenerational initiative demonstrates an engaging approach to fostering intergenerational connections.
- **Impact:** The extent to which your intergenerational initiative effectively responds to a significant problem or need among teens and/or older adults.
- **Sustainability:** The extent to which your intergenerational initiative's activities will continue after you graduate.
- **Quality:** The extent to which your application is well-written, well thought-out, organized, and edited. This includes proofreading! Photos, videos and other digital media documenting your work are encouraged and can be submitted as supplemental materials.
- **Recommendation:** How your recommender regards your contributions, leadership efforts, and program sustainability.

OMEGA Scholarship Application

Part A: Student and High School Information

Student name:

Home address (please include city, state, and zip code):

Phone number:

Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY):

Email address:

High school name:

High school address (please include city, state, and zip code):

Year of high school graduation (check one):

2022

2023

Name of school principal or headmaster:

Principal/headmaster's phone number:

Principal/headmaster's email address:

How did you learn about the OMEGA Scholarship? (check all that apply)

- From a teacher or staff member at my school
- From a local organization (e.g., a local nonprofit)
- Through a newsletter, newspaper or magazine
- Online through a web search or website
- At an OMEGA-related event (e.g, Summits, Chat Hours, etc.)
- Somewhere else (please specify): _____

Name of intergenerational initiative:

Is your intergenerational initiative affiliated with a Five Star Senior Living community?

Yes No Not sure

Part B: Advisor and Community Partner Information

Name of intergenerational initiative advisor(s) (if applicable):

Intergenerational initiative advisor(s) phone number:

Intergenerational initiative advisor(s) email address:

Have you worked with any partners or organizations in your local community as a part of your intergenerational initiative?

Yes No Not sure

Name of community partner organization(s) (if applicable):

Name of staff member(s) at community partner organization(s) (if different from initiative advisor, if applicable):

Staff member(s) phone number:

Staff member(s) email address:

Part C: Intergenerational Initiative Description

Note: Please attach additional sheets as needed if your responses are outside the space allotted.

Write a brief description of your intergenerational initiative.

What is the goal of your intergenerational initiative?

What is your role in the intergenerational initiative?

Provide a detailed timeline of the activities/responsibilities you led or participated in for your intergenerational initiative. A bulleted list format is acceptable.

What challenges has your intergenerational initiative faced, if any? How have you worked to overcome them?

What outcomes or benefits have resulted from your initiative?

How many students or teens are involved in your initiative (including yourself)?

- 1-4
- 5-9
- 10-14
- 15 or more
- Other (please specify): _____

How many older adults are involved in your initiative?

- 1-4
- 5-9
- 10-14
- 15 or more
- Other (please specify): _____

Who are these students/teens and older adults (e.g., other students from your school, older adults from your local senior center, etc.)?

Are there any other people involved in your initiative? If so, how many are involved in your initiative and who are they?

How are you working to ensure that your initiative will continue to connect students and older adults after you graduate?

Briefly describe how the OMEGA scholarship match award will be used by your intergenerational initiative and/or by your community partner organization or initiative's advisor. If applicable, describe any related discussions you have had about this with your community partner or initiative advisor.

Should you be awarded this scholarship, to whom and where would the match award amount be directed and mailed?

Name/Affiliation:

Phone number:

Mailing Address:

Note: In order to be eligible for the scholarship, you **must** have a recommender **complete and submit** a recommendation letter using the guidelines found on our website: <https://agelab.mit.edu/get-involved/outreach/omega/> Recommenders can complete a letter online, email completed letters to omegamit@mit.edu or mail them to: The MIT AgeLab, Attn: OMEGA Scholarship Committee, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, E40-275K, Cambridge, MA 02139. Supplementary application materials, such as photos or videos, can also be submitted to these addresses.

Part D: Demographics (OPTIONAL)

We are using this information to learn more about the demographics of our applicants. The two questions below are **completely optional** and **will not** affect your eligibility for the OMEGA Scholarship.

With which gender do you most closely identify?

Woman

Man

Prefer not to answer

Prefer to self-identify: _____

Please select all of the race(s)/ethnicities with which you most closely identify.

African

Asian-American

Black or African-American

East Asian (including Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, Tibetan, and Taiwanese)

Hispanic, Latine, or Spanish Origin

Indigenous American/First Nations (including Native American, American Indian, Alaskan Native)

Middle Eastern

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

South Asian (including Bangladeshi, Bhutanese, Indian, Nepali, Pakistani, and Sri Lankan)

Southeast Asian (including Burmese, Cambodian, Filipino, Hmong, Indonesian, Laotian, Malaysian, Mien, Singaporean, Thai, and Vietnamese)

White or Caucasian

Prefer to self-identify: _____

Prefer not to answer