



P. C. SOMERVILLE AWARDS FOR FUTURE TEACHERS (up to \$2,000 each)

ABOUT THE AWARDS

P. C. Somerville Awards, named in honor of Sigma Tau Delta's first president, are for Sigma Tau Delta active members who will begin their first year of teaching elementary, middle, or high school English by September 15 following the application deadline. **Applicants need not be under contract at the time of application**, but winners must provide verification of the baccalaureate degree and of full-time employment (per instructions from the ΣΤΔ Central Office) to receive their stipends. Should winners not be able to provide such verification by the beginning of the fall semester following their application process, their awards will be presented to runners-up. Applicants should demonstrate academic scholarship, chapter service and an aptitude for teaching. Awards are usually determined by March 31 and typically are announced at the ΣΤΔ annual convention.

Each chapter may nominate up to three student members. Applicants must send the completed application packet (original and six copies), **postmarked by midnight November 6, 2009**, to: Sigma Tau Delta, P.C. Somerville Awards, Department of English, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115-2863.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Materials will not be returned. Handwritten, late, incomplete, or faxed applications will not be considered.

1. Type information requested on page 2 (APPLICANT INFORMATION I-IV).
2. Sign Applicant's Declaration below.
3. Obtain your letters of recommendation (VI).
4. Write your Application Essay (V).
5. Obtain official transcript(s) as requested (VII). Include with this application..
6. Present packet to your chapter for nomination.
7. Have your chapter sponsor sign the Nomination Statement below.
8. Make six **collated and stapled** copies of these materials including this cover sheet (excluding transcript).
9. Include diskette or CD containing information requested on p. 2 in APPLICANT INFORMATION I-V.
10. Send entire packet (original and six copies) to the address above.

APPLICANT'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the information provided in this application is true. If selected to receive a Somerville Award, I agree to use it for the purpose and at the time stipulated in my application. I further agree that my application package becomes the property of Sigma Tau Delta and may be used for publicity purposes.

Applicant's Signature

Date

NOMINATION STATEMENT

ΣΤΔ Chapter _____ hereby nominates _____
for a Somerville Award. I certify that the nominee is a member in good standing and that, to the best of my knowledge, the information and documents herein are accurate and provided in good faith. *I believe this application packet is complete.*

Chapter Sponsor's Signature

E-mail Address

Date

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Format: Times New Roman 12 pt. or Courier 10 cpi font. Single-spaced. Margins 1-1.25.

Label and provide information in the order listed.

I. Personal Information

1. Full name
2. Permanent address and telephone number
3. E-mail address
4. Your college mailing address and telephone number (if different from above)

II. Academic Information

1. College or university you now attend
2. Address of your college or university
3. Other colleges or universities you have attended (with dates)
4. Name of the Sigma Tau Delta chapter you were inducted into and year of induction
5. Name of faculty sponsor at your present chapter
6. E-mail address of your faculty sponsor
7. Major field(s) of study / minor(s)
8. Graduation date, actual or projected
9. Identify what degree(s) you are seeking and any degree(s) you may already have
10. List (vertically) by title all English courses (undergraduate and graduate) you have taken, indicating the grade you received in each
11. Note your GPA in English courses
12. Note your current cumulative GPA

III. Awards and Activities

1. List any awards, scholarships, or honors you have received. Explain briefly where necessary, and give dollar amounts of scholarships and cash awards.
2. List any offices you have held, committees you have chaired, or other leadership roles you have undertaken in your Sigma Tau Delta chapter.
3. List and briefly describe other significant campus or community activities. Please do not list activities for which you have received a salary or stipend.
4. List significant campus or community activities for which you have received a salary or stipend.

IV. Professional Statement

Briefly (1-2 short paragraphs) state your personal philosophy of education and describe how it will impact the way you teach English.

V. Application Essay

On a separate sheet write a 200-400 word personal essay (double-spaced) on some aspect of the Sigma Tau Delta 2010 Convention theme, “*Storytellers.*” You may propose and support any thesis appropriate to this subject, but essays longer than 400 words will not be read.

VI. Letters of Recommendation

Secure two brief (one page or less each), unsealed letters of recommendation written on letterhead: one from a college English faculty member and one from someone with detailed knowledge of your work in teaching and in education courses (e.g., a college education department faculty member or a supervising teacher from your student teaching experience). Provide photocopies of these and include the original.

VII. Transcripts

Include **one official** copy of **each** transcript from colleges/universities you have attended (downloaded copy not acceptable). Your most recent transcript should show an official overall undergraduate (and an official graduate, if applicable) GPA. Do not include copies of your transcript with the copies of your applications. We need only **one** copy of your transcript with each scholarship application. If your current transcript includes a course-by-course record of coursework taken at other institutions, you do not need separate transcripts from those institutions.

If you are applying for more than one scholarship, you may include the original transcript in one scholarship packet and a photocopy of the transcript with the other scholarship packets. Do include with each photocopy a note stating the scholarship packet that contains the original.