

**VASA ORDER OF AMERICA
DISTRICT LODGE PACIFIC SOUTHWEST NO. 15**

REQUIREMENTS & INSTRUCTIONS FOR SJÖLUNDEN SCHOLARSHIP 2024

For the different kinds of scholarship offered, amounts, etc. please see the *Scholarship Offerings* page

IMPORTANT! STUDY THESE REQUIREMENTS THOROUGHLY, KEEP THE PAGES AND USE THEM AS A CHECKLIST!
It is to your advantage to get started as early as possible on filling out the application form, gathering the required documents, and writing your essay. The whole process may take longer than you think!

The applicant must:

1. Either be a member, or be a child or a grandchild of a person who has been a member of a local lodge within District #15 since January 1, 2023.
2. Be between 14 and 18 years of age when the Camp begins (generally in July).
3. Submit a completed, neatly written application along with all the required documents, before the due date to the Scholarship Committee Chair. The due date for documents is December 31, 2023.
4. Submit a separate page describing the applicant's lodge involvement, such as offices held, meeting attendance, participation in lodge activities, etc.
5. Provide a letter from the applicant's Local Lodge Secretary, stamped with the Local Lodge Seal, verifying the applicant's lodge membership or applicant's parent's or grandparent's membership in good standing. The letter shall also describe the applicant's past and present involvement in lodge activities. The Secretary shall enclose the letter in a sealed envelope before giving it to the applicant or mail/e-mail it directly to the Scholarship Committee Chair on or before the application deadline.
6. Provide one letter of recommendation from a current teacher, counselor, or principal. The letter shall establish the applicant's classroom/campus attitude, study habits, and ability to adapt to camp environment. (A form letter posted on www.VasaDL15.org may be used by the person giving the reference.)
7. Submit an original, typed essay of 300-500 words on the subject
How the Camp experience can benefit my Nordic Heritage

If the applicant wins an award, s/he is required to:

1. Within six weeks of receiving the award, provide evidence of health and accident insurance absolving the District Lodge of any liability during the camp and while traveling to and from the camp.
2. Provide receipts for travel costs to the District Secretary after the conclusion of the camp.
3. Within three months of concluding the camp, mail a written report of the Swedish Island Language camp experience to the Scholarship Committee Chair. Photographs and drawings are also welcomed.

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Award winners will be notified by February 1, 2024. All other scholarship applicants will receive a notification no later than February 11, 2024.

Please note that applications from more than one member of the same family are accepted, but only one scholarship will be awarded if there are other qualified applicants for the same scholarship. Also, one person may only apply to one type of scholarship in one year.

Awarded scholarships must be claimed within one year of date of award.

For details on payment of awards, please see the *Scholarship Offerings* page.

NOTE: Please request the letter from your Lodge Secretary and your educational reference letter in good time before the application due date. (Hint: Request references before the holidays!)

SUBMIT YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION AND ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS,

electronically no later than DECEMBER 31, 2023

to scholarships@vasaDL15.org

OR

Mail a week earlier to: *Jennifer Weisbart-Moreno, 1723 Lomas Privadas Dr, San Bernardino, CA 92404*

so all required documents are received by December 31, 2023.

Questions? Please text or call Scholarship Committee Chair Jennifer Weisbart-Moreno at 206-931-6653.

GOOD LUCK!