

ISABELLA SANTOS

FOUNDATION

2025 EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The **Isabella Santos Foundation (ISF)** was created in honor of Isabella Santos, who fought Neuroblastoma for over five years. In her memory, ISF continues to raise money and awareness for rare pediatric cancers. In addition to funding initiatives like the ISF Rare & Solid Tumor Program at Levine Children's Hospital, we provide financial assistance and general support to families with children battling cancer throughout every step of their journey. ISF also supports charities directly impacting children with cancer, including the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the Ronald McDonald House of Charlotte and our local blood bank, OneBlood.

Through our **TORCH Initiative**, ISF is expanding its reach beyond Charlotte to fund groundbreaking research and innovative therapies for rare pediatric cancers across our region. TORCH aims to transform pediatric cancer care by funding clinical trials, basic science research, survivorship support and providing resources for local hospitals and healthcare institutions. With your support, ISF is able to extend its impact to a broader community, helping more families in need.

Our Mission

ISF aims to make a difference in the lives of those impacted by rare pediatric cancer. We understand we cannot do this without the support of our community. To date, ISF has raised over \$16M to expand pediatric cancer research and treatment, and to support various needs of families affected by childhood cancers. We hope to inspire others to join us in fulfilling Isabella's mission of "No More Cancer."

Eligibility Criteria

- High school seniors or current college students who have previously battled or are currently battling pediatric cancer and who have not been previously awarded the scholarship.
- High school seniors or current college students who participated in making a positive difference in our community related to cancer awareness, advocacy, fundraising and/or volunteerism at ISF.
- Applicants must be enrolled as a full-time college student.
- Volunteer support is highly recommended.

Scholarship Guidelines

The scholarship will be administered according to the following guidelines:

1. The Isabella Santos Foundation will administer this scholarship, with a vote from the Scholarship Committee, composed of ISF staff and/or board members.
2. The scholarship will be awarded in the amount of **\$1,000** or **\$2,500**, payable directly to the recipient's college through their tuition account. This is a one-time payment.
3. Scholarship recipients must remain enrolled as full-time college students following the award.
4. Recipients must:
 - a. Exhibit the ideals, values and mission of ISF in the community and strive to make a positive difference in the lives of cancer patients.
 - b. Respond to the open-ended/essay questions listed below.
 - c. Agree to allow ISF to share a story or social media post announcing the scholarship.
5. The decisions of the Isabella Santos Foundation Scholarship Committee are final.
6. Applicants will be notified by May 30th.

Short Answer Questions

Please answer the following questions in your application:

1. **Your name and the college you are currently attending or starting in the fall.**
2. **If you have been diagnosed with cancer:** Share how your cancer diagnosis and journey has changed your perspective and plans for the future? How did you handle the adversity thrown your way? What did you gain from the experience? What simple advice would you offer to other kids going through something similar?
3. **If you have not been diagnosed with cancer:** List any volunteerism and support of ISF in which you have participated. Also, provide an example of how you have made a positive difference in our community related to cancer awareness, cancer action or support of any cancer-related charity or foundation, along with your reflections on that experience.
4. ISF would like to expand our partnership with teens and young adults within our community. Please provide a couple of suggestions as to how we might partner with local teens and young adults to improve the lives of cancer patients and inspire them to take action.

Please submit answers and three (3) photos that can be used on the ISF website/social in recognition of the scholarship via email by May 1st.

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