



Advocates in Disability Award

The purpose of the Advocates in Disability Award (ADA) program is to award and encourage a young individual with a disability between the ages of 14 and 26, who is dedicated to positively affecting the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families in the United States. The program also supports an innovative project developed by the recipient to serve and empower individuals with disabilities.

The ADA is a joint program of The HSC Foundation and the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation. The selected recipient is awarded \$3,000 in recognition of past disability advocacy and will receive up to an additional \$7,000 in funding support for a proposed project to benefit the disability community.

The ADA program seeks a deserving young person who has distinguished himself/herself through contributions in the area of disability. Some examples of qualified applicants could include (but are not limited to): a student who is advocating for equal access to quality education, a young professional educating an employer about workplace accommodations, or a young person advocating for better policies and legislation for people with disabilities. This person does not have to be a “professional” advocate, but should be effectively working to make a difference. The ADA seeks to recognize and award individuals who are advocates through their deep belief and commitment to the inclusion and empowerment of all people with disabilities.

Applicants must be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States at the time of application submission and recipient selection.

About The HSC Foundation

The HSC Foundation is dedicated to improving access to services for individuals who face social and health care barriers due to disability, chronic illness, or other circumstances that present unique needs. The Foundation serves as the parent organization to Health Services for Children with Special Needs, Inc., The HSC Pediatric Center, and HSC Home Care, LLC. Together, these organizations comprise The HSC Health Care System, and offer a comprehensive approach to caring, serving, and empowering individuals with disabilities.

About the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation

Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation (MEAF) is the corporate foundation of the Mitsubishi Electric group companies in the United States. MEAF works to make *Changes for the Better* in society by investing in innovative strategies to empower youth with disabilities to lead productive lives.

2017 Advocates in Disability Award (ADA) Application

****Please review the [ADA Guidelines](#) prior to completing this application****

Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Date of Birth: _____

Applicant's Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Applicant's Phone Number: _____

Applicant's Email Address: _____

Please specify your disability(s) _____

Name of employer (if you are employed) _____

Please respond to the following questions in your application:

- In 500 words or less, please describe yourself and your current/previous work that impacts/impacted the lives of individuals with disabilities.
- In 600 words or less, please describe the project that you would develop and/or expand and implement with up to \$7,000 in funding. The project should serve and empower individuals with disabilities.

Each applicant must submit two (2) letters of reference or support from individuals familiar with the applicant's work that positively impacts the disability community.

Reference #1 – Name: _____ Email: _____

Reference #2 – Name: _____ Email: _____

Does your proposed project involve partnering with an organization(s)?

Yes ____ No ____

If the implementation or expansion of your project involves partnering with an organization, you must submit a partnership letter from the organization(s) involved.

Semi-finalists will be contacted for phone interviews.

By submitting an application, you are confirming the following:

- You are between the ages of 14 and 26
- You are a person with a disability
- You currently reside in the United States
- You are not an employee of The HSC Health Care System, Mitsubishi Electric America, a family member/ member of their Board of Directors, or a family member/member of the Youth Transitions Collaborative Leadership Council
- If selected, you are able to attend the ADA Briefing Reception on June 14, 2017 in Washington, DC (travel accommodations provided as necessary)
- If selected, you are willing to participate in a monthly conference call with a staff member of The HSC Foundation and provide status updates on your project
- If selected, you will provide The HSC Foundation with an interim progress report (by December 8, 2017), and a final report (by May 31, 2018) detailing the project's successes and outcomes, as well as challenges and barriers. The final report shall also include an accounting of all expenditures for the project
- You will make every effort to promote the ADA Program and the [Youth Transitions Collaborative](#) in your advocacy work, including your participation in various activities arranged by The HSC Foundation and the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation.
- By signing below, you give permission to The HSC Health Care System and the Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation to copyright, publish, broadcast or use in print or electronic media, photographic images, testimonials and related information to you and your ADA project for marketing, promotional, educational or advertising purposes and waive the right to inspect and or approve the finished product and its contents.

Applicant's Signature

Date

If applicant is under the age of 18 years old,

Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date

Applications must be received by: April 12, 2017 (by 5:00pm ET)

Submit your application (including letters of reference or support and partnership letter(s), if applicable) online at: <http://www.hschealth.org/ada>

Applications materials can also be submitted by mail (postmarked by April 12) to:

**The HSC Foundation
ATTN: Jessica Queener
2013 H Street, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20006**

Incomplete applications and/or applications without two (2) letters of reference and partnership letter(s), if applicable, will not receive consideration.