

Summit To Success, Inc.

With opportunity comes obligation. Together, we climb. One child, one community, one nation at a time.

Scholarship Criteria

Document Type: Internal Criteria and Scoring Standard

Applies To: Summit To Success Leadership and Scholarship Review Committee

Used For: Official candidate evaluation and final selection decisions

Updated: January 15, 2026

Version: 2.0

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Verification Interview Guide

Simple Interview + Follow-Up Questions (Verification-Based)

Document Type: Interview Guide and Verification Standard

Applies To: Summit To Success Leadership and Scholarship Interviewers

Used For: On-site student interviews to verify important claims and support fair scoring

Updated: January 15, 2026

Version: 2.0

Purpose

This document explains how Summit To Success selects scholarship students.

We want a process that is:

- fair

- consistent
 - based on real evidence
 - not based on confidence or performance
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What We Collect for Each Student

Summit will collect the following for each nominee:

- marksheets / school records
- student letter (written by the student on-site)
- student interview (done on-site)

Letter rule:

The student must write their letter independently. Teachers should not edit or rewrite it.

Scoring (100 Points Total)

Each student is scored out of **100 points**.

We score 4 areas (**25 points each**):

- Academic Readiness
 - Financial Need and Barriers
 - Responsibility and Persistence
 - Trajectory and Potential
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How Letters and Interviews Are Used

Letters and interviews are used to:

- verify important claims

- check consistency
- understand goals and effort in simple terms

Letters and interviews must NOT be used to reward:

- confidence
- charisma
- speaking style
- writing style
- vocabulary

Important note:

Academic Readiness is mainly evaluated using marksheets and school records.

Letter + Interview Category Rule

To keep scoring fair and simple:

The letter and interview are only used to score “Trajectory and Potential.”

The letter and interview must NOT be used to increase scores for:

- Academic Readiness
 - Financial Need and Barriers
 - Responsibility and Persistence
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Verification Rule

When a student makes an important claim, Summit decides:

Verified (We were able to confirm it)

This means Summit asked follow-up questions and the claim made sense.

Result: Verified claims may support scoring.

Not Verified / Unclear (We were not able to confirm it)

This means Summit could not confirm the claim, even after follow-up questions, or there was not enough information.

Result: Do not reward the claim (neutral).

Contradicted (It conflicts with other information)

This means the claim did not match school records or the student's other answers.

Result: Credibility concern. Treat related scoring carefully.

Verification Notes (Recommended)

Summit will record interviews whenever possible.

After the interview, Summit may add short notes to the Candidate Profile:

- Verified (confirmed claims)
- Not Verified / Unclear (claims that could not be confirmed)
- Contradicted (claims that conflict with other information)

Rule:

- Verified claims may support scoring
 - Not Verified / Unclear claims do not increase scoring
 - Contradicted claims create credibility concerns and must be treated carefully
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High Score Guardrail

Very high scores must be based on:

- school records and documentation, and/or
- verified information from the letter and interview

Very high scores should not be based only on impressive statements.

Final Selection

Summit selects scholarship recipients based on:

- total score (out of 100)
 - verified information and credibility concerns
 - leadership final review for fairness and consistency
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Tie-Breaker Rule (If Needed)

If two students have the same final score, Summit may prioritize:

1. higher verified financial need
 2. stronger responsibility and persistence
 3. stronger upward trajectory (recent improvement)
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No Promises Rule

Summit does not promise scholarships during visits.

Nomination does not guarantee selection.

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