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**DEADLINE APPROACHING FOR VERIZON FUTURE LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP**

*Bay State Games athletes have until June 14 to submit scholarship applications*

**WOBURN, MA-** This summer, the Massachusetts Amateur Sports Foundation (MASF) is celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bay State Games, which will be held July 10-23. The annual Olympic-style competition allows Massachusetts residents of all ages and abilities to compete in 25 different sports. Along with offering sports competition, the Bay State Games, in partnership with Verizon, annually awards six \$2,000 college scholarships to Bay State Games participants.

The Verizon Future Leaders Scholarship aims to identify young men and women who demonstrate leadership through community service, academic excellence, and athletic achievement. Over the past 17 years, the Verizon Future Leaders Scholarship program has distributed over \$200,000 to students who wish to further their education. Scholarship recipients have represented all regions of the state including the Berkshires and Cape Cod and have attended prestigious institutions including Boston College, Harvard University, Wake Forest University, and the University of Notre Dame.

Student athletes who wish to receive one of six scholarships awarded must be in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade as of the 2005-2006 academic school year. Applicants also must have either participated in the 2006 Winter Games, or are registered and will agree to participate in the upcoming Summer Games. Athletes do not need to make a final roster to be eligible for the scholarship. Interviews for those selected will be held June 26-28.

Applications for the scholarship must be post marked no later than June 14. Applications are available with your high school athletic director, guidance counselor, or on the Bay State Games website at <http://www.baystategames.org/summer/scholarships.asp>. For more information regarding the scholarship, please call the Bay State Games' office (781) 932-6555, or email Michelle Fields [Michelle@baystategames.org](mailto:Michelle@baystategames.org).

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