

# THE JOSEPH S. SPERRAZZA ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND

## 2015-2016 Scholarship Award

### Annual scholarship for an undergraduate or graduate student majoring in Elementary or Secondary Education at SUNY Buffalo State

1. **ELIGIBILITY.** Full-time or part-time student working towards a degree in elementary or secondary education. Scholarship is renewable by applying up to 8 semesters for undergraduates and up to 4 semesters for graduates.
2. **CRITERIA.** Selection will be based on a combination of academic eligibility, community and/or public service, and a written personal statement. Financial need may be taken into consideration, but is not required. Preference will be given to candidates from Western New York.

**Academics:** Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

**Service:** Applicants must have a strong commitment to community and/or public service such as AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, or volunteering at a human service agency (City Mission, Cornerstone Manor, Red Cross, Big Brothers Big Sisters, etc.).

**Personal Statement:** submit an original statement of qualification with the application, including the candidate's life changing experiences in community service, how this experience affected his/her life, and how it will make them a better teacher.

**Recommendations:** Letters of recommendation are not required, but will be taken into consideration.

3. **APPLICATION PROCESS.** Applications must be forwarded to the Dr. John F. Siskar, Chase Hall, 201 or via email to [siskarjf@buffalostate.edu](mailto:siskarjf@buffalostate.edu) by March 27, 2015.
4. **DISBURSEMENT.** Disbursement for the 2015-2016 academic year will be made directly to the recipient's student account.
5. **SELECTION PANEL.** Scholarship recipient will be selected by a panel comprised of the director of CEURE, a representative from the elementary education program, a representative from the secondary education program, and the Donor or Designees. The decision on awarding the scholarship will rest with a majority vote of the selection panel.

A native of North Buffalo, Joseph Salvatore Sperrazza was a dedicated educator who spent much of his career not only teaching students, but also mentoring teachers so they would succeed both professionally and personally. Inspired by Robert F. Kennedy, Mr. Sperrazza volunteered for the Peace Corps after completing his undergraduate degree and spent two life changing years in the Philippines educating and assisting teachers in Filipino schools.

When he returned to Buffalo in 1969, he enrolled at Buffalo State College to continue his own education, completing his Master's degree in Secondary Education: English in 1974 and receiving a Certificate of Advanced Studies in School Administration and Supervision in 1987. A consummate professional, he taught at Bennett High School, Southside Junior High and the Futures Academy, was an assistant principal at School No. 38 and at the Academic Challenge School, and worked in the Buffalo Board of Education before his untimely death in 2003.

Throughout his career, Mr. Sperrazza focused on helping teachers help children. He believed strongly in the power of service and worked tirelessly to ensure that people came first.



**Joseph S. Sperrazza Endowed Scholarship Fund  
Application  
Deadline Friday, March 27, 2015**

The intent of the scholarship is to support ONE scholarship to an undergraduate or graduate student working towards his/her degree in either elementary or secondary education.

Student Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Banner I.D. # \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ Degree Program: \_\_\_\_\_

College Status: \_\_\_\_\_

(Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior, Graduate Student, Certification Only)

Eligibility

1. Be an undergraduate or graduate student working towards a degree in elementary or secondary education.
2. Applicants may be either full-time (minimum of 12 credit hours) or part-time (minimum of 6 credit hours) student.
3. Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
4. Demonstrate a strong commitment to community and/or public service such as AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, or volunteering at a human service agency (City Mission, Cornerstone Manor, Red Cross, Big Brothers Big Sisters, etc.).

Student Requirements

1. Complete and submit application to John F. Siskar, CEURE Office, Chase Hall 201 or via e-mail, [siskarjf@buffalostate.edu](mailto:siskarjf@buffalostate.edu)
2. Submit an original statement of qualifications with the application, including candidate's experiences in community service, how this experience affected his/her life and how it will make them a better teacher.
3. Letters of recommendation are not required, but will be taken into consideration.