

# Justin Thomas Fund 2026 Grant Application

*A Kentucky Golf Foundation Program*





Justin started playing golf at the age of two and was competing in tournaments by the age of eight, winning his first tournament that June in the 12 and under division. Justin has won 125 individual events on the local, national, and international stage, and additionally has been a part of many victorious teams' squads. One of the top players in the Polo Junior rankings and a Polo All American in 2010, Justin went to high school at St. Xavier High School in Louisville, winning the state high school championship both individually and twice as a team. He was named Mr. Golf in Kentucky in 2009. In 2010, Justin won the Terra Cotta Invitational, with a final round 66, his first major amateur win. That summer he was runner-up at the US Junior Amateur and in 2011, Justin won the International Junior Byron Nelson Award.

Justin continued his golf at the University of Alabama where he won the first college event he played in, The Carpet Classic, firing a 30 on his final nine. In addition to winning the prestigious Jones Cup Invitational, one of the top prizes in amateur golf, Justin won six events as an individual.

As a freshman, Justin won the Haskins Award and the Jack Nicklaus Award, as the national NCAA Division 1 player of the year, and the Phil Mickelson Award as the freshman player of the year. A SEC Champion as an individual and twice a member of the Alabama team in 2012 & 2013, Justin was also named SEC Player of the Year in 2012. A semifinalist in the 2012 US Amateur, he has also been a member of a AJGA Canon Cup team, two Palmer Cup teams, a Junior Ryder Cup team, the USGA World Amateur team in 2012, and a member of the winning 2013 NCAA Championship and Walker Cup teams. Justin turned professional in 2013 and in 2018 he became the 21<sup>st</sup> player to top the World Golf Rankings. Justin has won 15 times on the PGA Tour including the 2017 and 2022 PGA Championship and became a member of the exclusive 59 club in the first round of the 2017 Sony Open in Hawaii.

In his rookie season on the PGA Tour, Justin hit a hole-in-one at the Greenbrier Classic. For his hole-in-one, Justin was awarded monies to be given to charities of his choice. Knowing the sacrifices parents make for their junior golfers to play national events, Justin decided to work with the Kentucky Golf Foundation to establish the Justin Thomas Fund to provide Kentucky junior golfers whose skill level demonstrates they have the potential to play at the collegiate level enabling them to play a more robust national junior schedule with the goal to gain more exposure and earn a college golf scholarship.



# Justin Thomas Fund Grant Application

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*The purpose of the Justin Thomas Fund is to provide financial assistance to a Kentucky junior golfer whose past performance record demonstrates they have the potential to play at the collegiate level enabling them to play a more robust national junior schedule with the goal to gain more exposure and earn a college golf scholarship.*

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## ELIGIBILITY & GUIDELINES:

### To be eligible, applicants must

- Be at least 14 years of age and not have graduated from high school
- Be a resident of the Commonwealth of Kentucky
- Has not yet received a college scholarship
- Complete Part I, Part II and III of Grant Application
- Provide Performance Record to include results and scoring details
- Provide tentative 2026 tournament schedule

### Important Information

- Grant Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. (EDT) on **Tuesday, April 7, 2026**
- Selection of Grant recipients will be announced by **Tuesday, May 5, 2026**
- Applicants will be evaluated by the Justin Thomas Grant Committee based on need, past performance in golf competitions and essay response
- Two grants of \$3,000 each will be awarded
- If you have received the Justin Thomas grant in a previous year, you will not be eligible for the grant.
- The Justin Thomas Grant Committee reserves the right to withhold funding for a grant recipient in certain circumstances, such as unbecoming conduct and withdrawing from an event without a valid reason
- In accordance with the Rules of Amateur Status, a grant may cover expenses associated with competing in an event limited exclusively to junior golfers (transportation and travel costs, accommodations and lodging, meals and refreshments, entry fees, caddie fees, cart fees, and practice round fees), and the recipient will receive reimbursement for such expenses after proper documentation (receipts) have been submitted

### Examples of eligible expenses:

- Costs incurred when traveling to and from a tournament. This may include gas, airfare (junior golfer only), airport transportation, rental cars and cabs
- Reasonable food and beverage costs (junior golfer only) incurred while attending a tournament
- Hotel costs incurred while attending a tournament - This does **not** include condos/Airbnb (junior only, unless sharing room with parent or guardian)
- Tournament entry fees
- Cart or caddie fees
- Practice round fees

### Examples of ineligible expenses:

- Airfare for parent or guardian
- Food and beverage costs for parent or guardian
- Golf equipment

## PART I - APPLICANT INFORMATION

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Currently (2025-26 school year), I am a high school:

\_\_\_\_\_ Freshman \_\_\_\_\_ Sophomore \_\_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_\_ Senior

Current Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been awarded a college scholarship to play golf: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Have you verbally committed to a college to play golf: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Have you ever been awarded the Justin Thomas Grant? If yes, what year(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian(s) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## PART II – APPLICANT ESSAY

- Please explain why you feel as though you deserve to be awarded a Justin Thomas Grant
- Indicate your need for grant support in your essay; how will this grant benefit you
- Essay must be typed and double spaced
- Essay should be no more than two pages

## PART III – PERFORMANCE RECORD

- Please provide your performance record for at least the last two years
- Record should include scores in addition to final results
- Performance Record must be typed

## SUBMISSION

Return Application by mail or email (as one document) with Part II and III to:

Kentucky Golf Foundation  
Attention: Justin Thomas Grant  
1116 Elmore Just Drive  
Louisville, Kentucky 40245

Email:  
Bailey Wiegandt  
bwiegandt@kygolf.org

*If sent via email, please scan all pages as ONE document.*

**Applications must be received at Golf House Kentucky  
by 4 p.m. (EDT) on April 7, 2026.**