



## Helpful guidelines for CASA's applying for braces through S4L:

- Applicant questionnaire and plan to “pay it forward” must be handwritten and answered by the applicant.
  - Youth with heartfelt and handwritten answers will help set them apart and really give a flavor of who they are. CASAs may assist the youth in completing the application but it must be in youth’s writing.
- Applicant must be a resident of the Northern Orange County, CA.
- Applicant must have a significant aesthetic need for braces.
- Applicant must demonstrate financial need.
- Applicant must be between 11 to 18 years old.
- Applicant must be a currently enrolled student and provide a copy of their report card or transcript. While good grades are desired for S4L recipients, exceptions will be made.
- Applicant should demonstrate a positive attitude.
- Applicant must agree to follow the treatment plan and demonstrate the ability and commitment to make all appointments on time.
  - The whole braces process will take 18-24 months with appointments every 8 weeks. Youth must have lost all baby teeth with all adult teeth in.
- Applicant is encouraged to display involvement and leadership in extracurricular activities.
  - S4L is aware that not all CASA youth have the capacity to participate in such activities.
- Must be willing during the treatment period to “pay it forward” by completing 40 hours of community service.
  - S4L is aware that not all CASA youth have the capacity to give back in this way. If youth can portray that at some point in their life they would like to pay it forward, that will suffice.
- Two Letters of Recommendation are mandatory. Please do not submit more than two letters, and limit each reference letter to one page each. Please type or print clearly with black ink (no pencil). Letters of Recommendation may be written by anyone - CASA, family, friends, teachers, coaches, counselors, dentists, etc.
- A clear 5x7 head shot with full smile & teeth showing must be included with application.
- Applications will be reviewed on a quarterly basis.
- Applications are received on ongoing basis. Each applicant will be notified of approval or denial after the end of each selection process.
- Applications that do not meet these criteria will be considered incomplete and will not be voted on by our Board of Directors.
- Applicants can reapply as many times as they would like.
- CASA’s should submit the complete application to your Case Supervisor for final review. Your Case Supervisor will give you the go-ahead before submitted the application packet to Smile for a Lifetime.
- Once the application has been approved by your CASA Case Supervisor, he or she will give you instructions on forwarding the completed application, applicant questionnaire, letters of recommendation, general dentist referral form, copy of report card or transcript and photos together in one packet.
  - The application, letters of reference, general dentist form and pictures will not be returned and will become property of Smile for a Lifetime Foundation.