This document is intended to answer your questions on submitting a scholarship appeal letter. If you have additional questions, please email the Scholarship Committee at jazzscholarships@newschool.edu.

How should I submit my appeal?
Appeals should be submitted through email to jazzscholarships@newschool.edu.

How should I address it?
Address your appeal letter to The Scholarship Committee. Write the word Appeal and your name in the subject line.

When is it due?
The Committee meets at the end of each semester. It is best to submit the letter (email) no later than December 1 for the spring semester and no later than May 1 for the fall. Decisions are made in January for spring, and in June for fall.

When are the decisions made?
The Committee will look at the final grades for each semester so decisions are made in January for spring and in June for fall.

What should the appeal say?
Scholarship is awarded on a merit basis so your letter should point to the reasons why you believe you are deserving of scholarship or additional scholarship consideration. Also let us know what you have been doing in school (additional ensembles, tutoring, help on auditions), and what you are engaged in outside of school.

What criteria does The Committee use to make decisions?
The Committee looks at grades, citizenship, and overall improvement. Talent and ability are important but improvement (in your musicianship and grades) in all your classes is key. Students must be in attendance for a minimum of one year (2 semesters) to be considered.

Should I include recommendation letters from faculty?
It is a personal choice. You may include letters from faculty but it is not required.

How will I know if I get/don’t get additional scholarship?
New or changed awards are posted on MyNewSchool. Check your MyNewSchool>Student>Student Financial Services account. You will also receive an email from SFS, but MyNewSchool is the fastest way to see all your most up to date financial information.

If I do not get it one semester, may I appeal again?
Yes, you may appeal again.
If I do get additional scholarship, may I appeal again the next semester?
   Yes, you may appeal but priority is given to students who have not received an award in the last year. Many students need scholarship assistance and our goal is to help as many students as possible. This necessitates rotating our scholarship awarding.

Why wouldn't I get additional money?
   If you have received a new or additional award on appeal sometime in the past two semesters and we are unable to award you again, or if your academic achievement or musical progress is not indicative of a strong commitment to your education. Consideration is also given to the school’s instrumental needs and ability to offer scholarship, as we need to stay within a spending budget.

Do I need all A’s?
   No, but The Scholarship Committee does want to see that school is a priority and that you take your studies seriously. Your cumulative GPA is important.

Why would I get additional money?
   The Scholarship Committee sees that you have worked hard on both your performance abilities and academics and that you are a contributing member of our school community.

What do I do if I cannot pay?
   It is important to speak to a financial aid counselor right away to discuss your options. We urge you to file the FAFSA form (U.S. Citizens only), and to investigate outside scholarships that may help with the high cost of attendance.