



## **United Way of Carlsbad & South Eddy County Non Traditional Scholarship**

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of the United Way of Carlsbad & South Eddy County Scholarship is to help provide non-traditional scholars a means of pursuing and achieving their higher educational goals. This multi-year scholarship is not limited to recent high school graduates, or only those attending or planning to attend traditional universities or junior colleges. The award recipient must be a full-time student in an undergraduate program or attending a technical/vocational school.

### **Target:**

Nontraditional college bound students including, but not limited to:

- High school graduates with a 2.0-3.0 GPA
- First generation scholars
- Adult students looking to further their education
- Returning students

### **Awards:**

Scholarships will be available as funding allows. All scholarship awards will be paid directly to the recipients after enrollment is verified with the educational institution. Verification of continued eligibility (grades) will be required. The total scholarship will total \$4,000 over a four-year period (\$500/semester) or an equivalent number of periods through the total course work for vocational/technical school programs. Refer to "How to Obtain Scholarship Funds" at the end of this application for procedures and deadlines.

### **Eligibility:**

To be eligible to apply, applicants must have a valid South Eddy County address. Applicants graduating high school must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and perform 10 hours of community service per semester. Applicants enrolling as adult students or returning to college must be able to prove professional commitment (i.e. employment history, volunteer work or other professional commitment).

### **Criteria:**

- Personal Character
- Academic and professional success
- Community service
- Intended major/field of study/career path
- Life experience/interests

### **Evaluation process:**

A rubric is utilized for the scholarship committee to evaluate the requests and make the final decision on award winner. Successful recipient and unsuccessful applicants will be notified.

### **Evaluation:**

A committee will evaluate each application utilizing a rubric. Based on their evaluations, a recipient and a runner up will be chosen. There are no appeals to their decision and their decision shall be final.

### **Application and Scholarship Process:**

- 1) Scholarship application will be completed online via our online grant system. (Applicants unable to complete online should request a hard copy application by calling 575-887-3504 or by stopping by the United Way of Carlsbad & South Eddy County office at 116 S. Canyon.)
- 2) Scholarship applications will be evaluated by committee. There are no appeals and the decision of the committee is final.
- 3) Successful recipient and unsuccessful applicants will be notified.
- 4) Recipient will submit proof of enrollment from the college attending.

### **Scholarship Application Information:** (All this will be uploaded to our online system for applicants to apply.)

Name:

Mailing Address:

Phone #:

Date of Birth:

Email Address:

Is any of your immediate family currently employed or on the Board of Directors of United Way of Carlsbad & South Eddy County? If so, who?

Are you a first generation to attend college from your family?

Have you been accepted into a college? If so, which one? If not, which have you applied to?

Major field of Study/Vocational program:

Student Status:

1<sup>st</sup> time to college

Adult/Non Traditional

Full time or Part time

Current GPA (if not a current student, please provide last known GPA, if available):

College attending:

Have you applied for student financial aid through Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA)?

Expected Family Contribution amount from FASFA report:

Please briefly explain your financial need for this scholarship (Max 200 words)

Briefly explain financial need for this scholarship (max 200 words)

Educational Goals:

Career Goals:

Essay: (Essay should be between 250 and 1,000 words) Please answer the following three questions:

- How will this scholarship help you attain the goals you have established?
- Tell us about a time when hard work has benefited you or those around you.
- How has your community service and volunteer work has affected your outlook?

List Volunteer/Community Service Work:

2 personal letters of recommendation focusing on professional character, academic and professional success and community service. Letters of recommendation may not be dated more than 6-months prior to the application deadline.

**Exclusions:**

United Way of Carlsbad & South Eddy County Staff and Board Members as well as their immediate family are not eligible to apply for this scholarship.



## How to Obtain Your Scholarship Funds

Congratulations on your scholarship award! Now that you are ready to start classes, you'll need to make sure you know how to obtain your scholarship check for the first semester and subsequent checks, if applicable.

Getting scholarship money paid is your responsibility. Universities and colleges will not automatically take care of it for you, and we certainly don't want you to miss out on funding that has been awarded. So here's what you need to do:

1. Present proof of enrollment (a schedule of classes) from your college and provided Scholarship Acceptance Form that includes your current contact information (address, phone number and email address) and eligibility requirements to UWCSEC in person or by one of the other methods listed below.

Recommended Timeframe: Now until end of July/early August

2. A check will be made out jointly to you and the college. When notified that your check is ready (allow 5-10 business days), pick it up at UWCSEC or request that we send it to you at your current address. Take the check to your college for payment.

Timeframe: Early August

3. Payments will be made in \$500 increments based on milestones for your program (i.e. each semester or progression through your required coursework of the vocational program). To demonstrate your continued eligibility for the Spring payment, you must present the following to UWCSEC after the semester ends:
  - a. Copy of grades/grade point average for the previous semester (unofficial transcript or online report is acceptable). Student must maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher to receive their subsequent payouts. Grades must be received no more than 30 days following the end of each semester.
  - b. Proof of enrollment for the next semester (schedule)
  - c. Scholarship Acceptance Form
  - d. Deadlines for payment requests: Within 30 days of the beginning of Fall Semester for the first half payment and no later than 30 days following the end of the next semester for each subsequent payment.

**IMPORTANT:** Requirements for maintaining eligibility (for example, GPA, full-time status, field of study, university) are listed on the acceptance form. Failure to do so for any semester by the deadline may result in the cancellation of the scholarship.

Please keep these instructions for future reference!