

POLK COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

Please read carefully.

1. **PCHS Only**—Applicant must be a graduate or prospective graduate of **Polk County High School**. (Home school students NOT eligible).
2. **College**—Applicant must be enrolled or plan to enroll the next semester in an **accredited** institution of higher education (Proprietary for-profit schools are not included).
3. **Award Amount**—Varies from year to year depending on scholarship money available; this will be determined by the Foundation Scholarship Committee
4. **ACT**—Current and recent graduates must have at least a 21 ACT (980 SAT) or overall unweighted **3.0 grade point average**.
5. **GED Graduates**—Score of 525 **and** 21 ACT (980 SAT) are required; if over 21, a GED score of 525 **and** successful completion of college entrance test are required. Applicant must be a resident of Polk County and previously affiliated with Polk County High. Submit transcript record from last school attended with this application.
6. **Income**—Parental adjusted gross income or independent student's (and spouse's) adjusted gross income will be considered on a "need" basis using the most recent IRS 1040 filing. (Note: Supporting data submitted by applicant is required but will be shown only to the Scholarship Committee and will be kept confidential).
7. **Second Degrees**—Priority consideration will be given to students who are attempting post-secondary education for the first time and have not yet earned a college degree. Secondary consideration will be given to those wishing to enroll for second degrees or graduate work.
8. **General**—Applications must meet the deadline established by the Committee each year. The Scholarship Committee will make awards after evaluating this application, transcript of high school work, and letters of recommendation. *Consideration will be given to good character,*

academic achievement, financial need, and future potential. The Scholarship Committee shall have authority over all questions regarding awards made by the Foundation, including determining eligibility and amount of award.

9. Mail application to the **Polk County Education Foundation, P. O. Box 752, Benton, Tennessee 37307.**

10. **Deadline—April 1** (Envelope must be post marked April 1 or earlier.) Scholarships will be awarded in early May of each year and are usually announced at the annual PCHS Awards Day.

Rev. 1-2014

CONFIDENTIAL
**POLK COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Personal

1. Name (First, Middle, Last) _____

2. Address _____

3. SS Number _____ Date of Birth _____

4. Address _____

5. Telephone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

6. E-mail address _____

7. Names of Parent(s)/Guardians _____

8. Names and Ages of Other People Living in Your Household _____

Academic

9. Date of Graduation from PCHS _____

10. Name of College/University you plan to attend this fall _____

11. What will be your major in college? _____

12. Cumulative Grade Point Average _____ ACT Score _____

Financial

13. Place of Employment for:

a. (Parents) _____

b. (Self) _____

14. Annual Income Last Year:

a. (Family) _____

b. (Self) _____

Required Attachments to this Application

You must include the following with this application:

1. Sealed **Certified copy of High School Transcript** that includes your ACT score and GPA (provided by high school counselor)
2. Your **resume** summarizing your high school achievements and activities that demonstrate your leadership ability and experience.
3. A **personal statement** summarizing other honors and recognitions you have received through school, church, community, and employment. This statement should also include your future plans, career goals, personal goals, etc.
4. A brief statement outlining your **financial need**. *This is important since NEED is strongly considered in making Foundation awards.* You must include family income as stated on the most recent income tax return, number of people in your household, and any unusual

- circumstance that have created a financial hardship such as illness, loss of job, etc. A copy of the 1040 must be attached to this statement.
5. **TWO** letters of recommendation (these can be from teachers, employer, pastor, youth counselor, etc.).

Scholarship Winners

If you are a Scholarship Recipient you must agree to the following terms:

- a. Provide to the Polk County Education Foundation a transcript of your grades at the end of each college semester.
- b. Maintain a **full load (12 or more hours)** of college-level course work each semester.
- c. Maintain a **grade point average of 2.5** on all college-level work.
- d. Allow your name to be used in announcements of scholarship awards or in publicity or brochures regarding the Polk County Education Foundation.
- e. **Write a thank-you letter** to the donor of your scholarship or to the Foundation if no donor is specified.
- f. Scholarships will be paid directly to the college or university.
- g. Recipients may reapply for **renewal** of scholarship up to four years provided load requirements, minimum grade point average requirements, and other Foundation requirements have been maintained each semester. Students applying for a renewal of scholarship assistance each year must write a letter to the scholarship committee requesting the renewal, stating intent to be enrolled in the fall, and proof of progress and enrollment (transcript). If the scholarship is renewed, the letter of award will be issued contingent upon the Foundation receiving an official transcript at the end of spring semester that verifies the recipient has met all qualifications. Deadline is **April 1** of each year. Send the letter to **Polk County Foundation, P. O. Box 752, Benton, TN 37307**.

I have read the above terms and conditions and agree to them.

Signed _____ Date _____