



# WESTERN CAROLINA A&M CLUB

Affiliated with the Texas A&M Association of Former Students

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

The Western Carolina A&M Club (WCAMC) is pleased to announce \$500 and \$1000 scholarships to Texas A&M University. The Scholarship(s) will be awarded to deserving Western North Carolina (WNC) High School Seniors attending Texas A&M University for the upcoming fall semester and/or to deserving WNC students currently enrolled at Texas A&M. **Please keep this information sheet in a safe place for future reference.**

**MAIL APPLICATION TO:** Arlana Peterson, 38 Lark Hill Dr, Arden NC 28704 or email to [arlana93@yahoo.com](mailto:arlana93@yahoo.com).

**DEADLINE:** Application and required documents must be postmarked by **March 31**.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- 1) High school seniors (or equivalent including home schooled students) or transfer students who have applied for admission to Texas A&M University for the upcoming fall semester OR students currently enrolled at Texas A&M.
- 2) Residents of the Western North Carolina Counties of Ashe, Watauga, Avery, Caldwell, Burke, Cleveland, Mitchell, McDowell, Rutherford, Yancey, Polk, Madison, Buncombe, Henderson, Haywood, Transylvania, Jackson, Swain, Macon, Graham, Clay and Cherokee.
- 3) A United States Citizen.
- 4) Maintain a 2.5 GPA and a minimum of 12 hours each funded semester.

**NON DISCRIMINATION:** Selection will be made without regard to the applicant's race, color, gender, religious creed, national or ethnic origin or educationally unrelated handicaps.

**INTERVIEW:** Personal or telephone interviews will be scheduled for qualified applicants prior to April 15. Applicants are encouraged to interview in person. ***Currently enrolled A&M students are encouraged to request early interviews if they are in NC during December break, Spring break, or other times.***

**QUESTIONS:** Any questions regarding application or the scholarship application process should be directed to Arlana Peterson 828-782-8429 or to [arlana93@yahoo.com](mailto:arlana93@yahoo.com).

**AWARD DATE:** The scholarship will be awarded at the Western Carolina A&M Club Muster ceremony held **around April 21st each year**. Scholarship recipients or a family representative must be present at Muster and will be introduced and recognized.

**CONDITIONAL AWARD:** Scholarships are awarded subject to the candidate being accepted at Texas A&M *and* enrolling at the University for the upcoming **fall** semester.

**NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE AT TEXAS A&M:** Candidate shall notify the Scholarship committee of acceptance by Texas A&M as soon as possible.

**DISBURSEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS:** The scholarship funds will be disbursed by the Texas A&M University financial aid office, after verification of GPA.

**VERIFICATION OF GPA:** Before transferring funds to A&M, the scholarship committee must have a copy of the recipient's latest transcript on file, and verify that they maintain a **2.5 GPA**. A PDF copy from the university web system is acceptable. Deadlines are: **June 1** (for fall disbursement) and **January 1** (for spring disbursement). *Students enrolling at A&M for the first time, will only send a copy of their Fall A&M transcript (due by January 1).* Missing these deadlines will delay disbursement. The scholarship committee will need to know the student's ID number in order to disperse funds to the correct account.

### **TIPS ON APPLYING FOR A SCHOLARSHIP FROM WCAMC**

We are glad that you want to attend Texas A&M and we wish you success in your college career. We evaluate every scholarship application very carefully. We choose our recipients on the basis of academic achievement, and general factors such as motivation, community service, leadership and character.

Transcripts provide basic information, but we will learn about your motivation, community service and character from your letters of recommendation (high school seniors only) plus **what** you tell us about yourself and **how** you express it.

### **GENERAL TIPS**

Make it easy for the scholarship committee to learn about you. Use the application form and fill in the information. Hand written applications will be accepted and considered, but a typed application is definitely more professional.

Do some research about A&M. Visit the A&M website at **[www.tamu.edu](http://www.tamu.edu)**.

Write clearly and concisely. You do not have to write prize winning prose; just write clear sentences in formal English. Write something and then read it aloud to see how it sounds. If you make careless errors in grammar or spelling, we will conclude that you do not take the scholarship seriously. Use spell check on your computer, but don't rely on it exclusively. Spelling does count.

When finished with your application please proofread and then proofread again. Then have someone else do the same.

Be sure to recheck that you have provided all requested documents and information. Your application will NOT be considered if crucial information is missing.

## **SPECIFIC TIPS ON COMPLETING THE APPLICATION**

**HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM AND PERFORMANCE:** Please include the most recent grade information possible. Please attach an official high school transcript and your SAT or ACT score report. PDF copies are acceptable.

**EXPERIENCE/EXTRACURRICULAR:** This section gives you an opportunity to identify what you consider to be your most significant, non-academic accomplishments. We are particularly interested in knowing about leadership roles you have held and the volunteer activities you have performed. This may include activities in clubs, athletics, church and civic organizations. This is also the place to describe any special family responsibilities, work experience or other extracurricular activities outside the classroom. Always list the most important items first. Be brief, but thorough. Make sure that each item is understandable to someone who is not familiar with a specific organization.

**ESSAYS:** Be brief but informative. Follow proper writing and grammar rules.

**TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION – HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS ONLY**  
Select the persons to write your letters of recommendation very carefully. Make sure these persons understand your specific goals so they can emphasize the aspects of your personality, academic performance and extracurricular activities that relate to that goal.

These letters should explain the position or status of the person writing the letter and their relationship with you. **NOTE:** Do NOT submit letters from relatives as letters of recommendation. These should be from a teacher, principal, supervisor in an after school or summer job, coach of your athletic team, community leader, etc. They should be from someone who has known you during your high school years. These letters should contain specific examples that illustrate your abilities and accomplishments. Other topics you may wish to include are your intellectual abilities, personal motivation, work habits, or emotional maturity.

The letter should not exceed one page in length. The emphasis should be on the **quality** and **not on the length** of your comments.

**PHOTO:** Please supply a high quality, electronic or printed photo with your application. The photo will be displayed at the club's annual Muster ceremony in April. Photos may also be used in club correspondences or newsletters as part of announcing scholarship winners. Close-up photos (from the shoulders-up) work best.