

## Texas A&M SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

The Western Carolina A&M Club (WCAMC) is pleased to announce scholarships ranging between \$500 and \$2000 for each FALL and/or SPRING semester at 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.

**SEND APPLICATION TO:** Ken Hawkins at 114 Clubwood Court, Asheville, NC 28803, or email to B744cap@gmail.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. 5) Twelve of the required hours must be taken at a main Texas A&M campus (College Station, Galveston, etc.). No online or in-residence courses at another college may be counted in the 12-hour total without special permission from the scholarship committee. 6) We will consider students with special circumstances on a case-by-case basis (illness, study abroad, special A&M-endorsed programs/internships). 7) Agree to notify the WCAMC scholarship committee within 4 weeks, if they fall below the required 12 hours, or fail to meet one of the above eligibility requirements. 8) Failure to notify the scholarship committee could result in delayed or cancelled disbursement, and the recipient may be asked to repay the scholarship funds. 9) In order to receive scholarship funding, applicants must receive permission from the scholarship committee for other types of enrollment such as travel abroad, dual enrollment, or cooperative study programs at another institution.

**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 Ken Hawkins at 114 Clubwood Court, Asheville, NC 28803 or email to B744cap@gmail.com.

**AWARD DATE:** The scholarship will be awarded or announced 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 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 each semester, the recipient must send the scholarship committee a current copy of his/her transcript on file. Transcripts must be received by December 25 (Fall grades) and June 1 (Spring grades) in order to receive the next semester's disbursement. A PDF copy from the university web system is acceptable. Students enrolling at A&M for the first time, will only send a copy of their Fall A&M transcript (due January 1). The committee will verify that they maintain a 2.5 GPA and the required 12-hour enrollment on the main A&M campus. Missing these deadlines could delay or cancel disbursement. The scholarship committee will need to know the student's ID number in order to disburse 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. Handwritten 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 do not 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.

**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.

**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.