



## **Texas Quarter Horse Foundation Youth Scholarship**

The Texas Quarter Horse Foundation provides financial assistance to members of the Texas Quarter Horse Youth Association in the form of scholarships. It is the goal of the Texas Quarter Horse Foundation to provide scholarship funds to deserving applicants who have a strong desire to continue their education as well as continue to develop leadership skills.

Scholarship selection criteria include academic merit, financial need, active involvement in the Texas Quarter Horse Youth Association, community involvement, extracurricular activities, communication skills and demonstrated leadership ability. The scholarship amount shall be determined by the availability of funding and the number of applicants selected to receive a scholarship.

Eligibility for the scholarships includes the following:

- 1) TQHYA member in good standing and not over 19 years upon application;
- 2) completed 11<sup>th</sup> grade;
- 3) application for the scholarship must be made no later than the first anniversary of high school graduation;
- 4) cumulative grade point average of not less than 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or equivalent); and,
- 5) United States citizenship and residency in the State of Texas.

The scholarship application must be personally prepared by the applicant. In addition to the completed application, the applicant must provide:

- 1) An essay, not to exceed 1000 words explaining:
  - a. why this scholarship is important to the applicant;
  - b. how the applicant intends to use the scholarship funds;
  - c. the applicant's ultimate goals; and
  - d. the applicant's financial need.
- 2) An official high school transcript (grades 10-11 mandatory, grade 12 to extent available on date of application);
- 3) One letter of reference from a teacher;
- 4) One letter of reference from a person familiar with the applicant's equine involvement;
- 5) One personal letter of reference from a person over the age of 21 years.

References may be submitted to the scholarship committee by the applicant in a sealed envelope with the signature of the person providing the reference across the seal.

Scholarship funds shall be paid directly to the institution and will not be issued to the student or his/her family. If awarded a Texas Quarter Horse Association Scholarship, it is the exclusive responsibility of the recipient to notify the Texas Quarter Horse Foundation office of the college university, trade or vocational institution the recipient will be attending and to provide the necessary information for contact with the financial department of the institution. Scholarship funds are to be used primarily for tuition, books and laboratory fees.

The scholarship application and the supporting material become the property of the Texas Quarter Horse Foundation and will not be returned.

#### Application Procedure

The Texas Quarter Horse Foundation provides financial assistance to members of the Texas Quarter Horse Youth Association through general scholarships. Interested members must meet all eligibility requirements and apply for scholarship funding by completing the scholarship application.

**\*All applications must be received in the TQHA office on or before December 1, 2020. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.**

#### Applicant Eligibility

Scholarship eligibility will be based on the criteria and requirements as identified by the Texas Quarter Horse Foundation. **An applicant shall be ineligible for consideration if one or more support materials are not submitted in the manner identified by the scholarship deadline.** Questions or concerns related to the submission of the application and/or support materials should be directed to the Texas Quarter Horse Association office.

It is the exclusive responsibility of the scholarship applicant to contact the Texas Quarter Horse Foundation in order to determine if all scholarship application materials have been received in a timely manner.

**Applicants must be a current member in good standing** of the Texas Quarter Horse Youth Association, and not over the age of 19, in order to apply for the Texas Quarter Horse Foundation Scholarship. ***Failure to provide proof of membership will result in application disqualification.***

**Applicants must provide personal financial information**, including anticipated college expenses. Additionally, applicants **must provide the first page of each parent's federal income tax return** for the most recent income tax filing prior to the application deadline. **Social Security numbers, Tax ID numbers and Employer ID numbers should be redacted by applicant.** Any questions regarding completion of the financial information requirement should be directed to the Texas Quarter Horse Association office. ***Failure to provide financial information will result in application disqualification.***

**Applicants must provide an official school transcript.** The transcript should contain a cumulative scholastic average ending with the academic year immediately preceding the application deadline. This average must be expressed as a numerical percentage (i.e. 95%/100%) or as a ratio including the scale on which is based (i.e. 3.89 out of 4.00). A copy of the school grading system, or a letter from the school official explaining the school grading system should accompany the scholarship application. Transcript should also contain the applicant's reported ACT and/or SAT scores, if

available at the time the application is submitted. It is the student's responsibility to request and subsequently submit the required transcript by the scholarship deadline indicated. ***Failure to provide academic information will result in application disqualification.***

Transcripts forwarded directly to the Texas Quarter Horse Foundation office from the applicant's school will be accepted if forwarded through the United State Postal Service. All academic documents, however, must be received no later than the application deadline reference. Scholarship applicants enrolled in advanced placement and/or dual credit in for college preparatory courses should provide an official transcript from each school the applicant is attending. If the applicant's high school transcript contains the scoring information from dual credit and/or college courses, then a transcript from the college attended will not be required. All documents should have an official signature for a school seal. All requirements and conditions also apply to home-schooled applicants.

**Applicants must provide an essay**, not to exceed 1000 words explaining: a) why this scholarship is important to the applicant; b) how the applicant intends to use the scholarship funds; c) the applicant's ultimate goals; and, d) the applicant's financial need. ***Failure to provide the essay with each of the discussion topics address will result in application disqualification.***

**Applicants must provide a minimum of three completed scholarship recommendation letters.** There is no specified format for the recommendation/reference letters. All references must be at least 21 years of age. References may not be completed by the applicant's legal guardian, relative, TQHA or Texas Quarter Horse Foundation staff or committee members and/or spouses. References completed by a committee member or director not directly associated with the selection process will be accepted. Any questions regarding the eligibility of a reference provider should be directed to the TQHA office. ***Failure to provide letters of recommendation will result in application disqualification.***