Student Service-Learning Scholarship

The Excellence in Education Foundation for PGCPS, Inc. (EEF-PGCPS) recognizes the importance of Prince George’s County Public School (PGCPS) students being actively engaged in student service-learning. The EEF-PGCPS wishes to promote the importance of giving back to the community. Therefore, the EEF-PGCPS has established the Student Service-Learning Scholarship for eight (8) graduating seniors who best personify an ongoing commitment to “exemplary service-learning.”

The Student Service-Learning Scholarship will award $3,500 each to eight (8) PGCPS graduating seniors who will continue their education at a post-secondary institution.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a current PGCPS student.
- Student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of independent student service-learning hours within the past 12 months; this is above and beyond the required 24 hours of student service-learning hours.
- Student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 for all high school course work.
- Student must submit the completed application form, which is found in the attachments section.
- Students must include a minimum of three letters of recommendation from individuals who directly supervised their service at the service location. (Note: Recommendation letters must be specific to the scholarship and current, not an admission to college recommendation letter.)
- The “official” transcript of grades must be a sealed document and include the student’s most recently received grades and service-learning hours. Transcript does not need to be sealed.
- Student must document obtained service hours received in the past 12 months on a separate sheet and include the service-learning completed, the name of the agency where the service-learning was provided, as well as the dates of service and total hours earned.
- Student must be accepted into a post-secondary institution.

ESSAY

Students must submit a well-developed, typed essay on their student service-learning experience. The essay should be one to two pages in length and should follow the MLA style. See additional essay guidelines and rubric on page 4.
EVALUATION

The evaluation process will consist of a review of all submitted application materials by the Scholarship Review Committee. Finalists’ applications will be notified by May 17, 2021.

The application must include all of the following to be considered complete:

- Application form
- Official transcript
- Documentation of earned independent service-learning hours received in the past 12 months that are beyond the required 24 hours
- Letters of recommendation on official letterhead (minimum of three)
- Essay
- Post-secondary institute acceptance letter

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

All materials submitted with the application become the property of the EEF-PGCPS and will not be returned to applicants.

The completed application and related documents must be submitted as indicated in the timeline below by March 19, 2021. Incomplete applications and applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 2020</td>
<td>Send information to the schools and Professional School Counselors; post on PGCPS website.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 19, 2021</td>
<td>By Mail: All components of the scholarship packet - including essay that meets established criteria are due to: Dr. Judith J. White, Chief Academic Officer, Sasscer Administration Building, 14201 School Lane, Room 201-C, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>By Email: Scan all components of the scholarship packet - including essay that meets established criteria – in one email to <a href="mailto:excel.scholarships@pgcps.org">excel.scholarships@pgcps.org</a> and include your first and last name and name of scholarship applied for in the subject line.</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 22 – April 26, 2021</td>
<td>Review application packets – including essays – and determine selection of the top candidates.</td>
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<tr>
<td>By May 10, 2021</td>
<td>Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or CEO’s designee may interview finalists and make final selections.</td>
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<tr>
<td>By May 17, 2021</td>
<td>Finalists, parents, and school administrators notified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 2021</td>
<td>Finalists and parents invited to attend BOE Recognition Ceremony.</td>
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Please direct any questions to the Office of the Chief Academic Officer, at 301-952-6233 or excel.scholarships@pgcps.org.

Attachments: Application Form
Essay Guidelines and Rubric
Student Service-Learning Scholarship Application

All applications, essays, and related documents are due to the Office of the Chief Academic Officer by March 19, 2021. Please type or print legibly and use black or blue ink. Illegible applications will not be considered.

Name: ________________________________
   (Last)      (First)      (MI)

Address: ________________________________
   (Street)    (City)        (State)          (Zip Code)

Email: ________________________________

Telephone: ____________________________ / ____________________________
   (Home)        (Cell)

Date of Birth: ____________________________
   Male: _______    Female: _______

Parent/Guardian Name: ____________________________

Years Enrolled in Prince George's County Public Schools: ____________________________

School Now Attending: ____________________________

Grade Level: ____________________________
   Grade Point Average (GPA): ____________________________

Total number of service-learning hours (as of date of application): ____________________________

Post-High School Plans: ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

INTEGRITY OF APPLICATION STATEMENT

My signature below constitutes my affirmation that:

- All of the information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
- The essay is my own original work (with the exception of those portions, which are properly documented).
- The agency information and hours listed on the application form are accurate.
- If selected to be a recipient of the Student Service-Learning Scholarship, I agree to participate in a PGCPS video/photo opportunity, which will be used to help publicize the availability and value of the scholarship opportunity.

Applicant's Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________
ESSAY GUIDELINES AND RUBRIC

In a well-developed essay, please address the following questions:

- What was the impact of your service, and how did your student service-learning build a bridge between you and the community which you served?
- What did you learn about yourself and others as a result of your service?

Please also keep in mind the following criteria:

- The applicant’s name and address must appear on the top-right corner of each page of the essay.
- The essay must be typed (double-spaced) in either Times New Roman or Arial (font size 12).
- The essay must be two to three pages in length and must be written using MLA style.
- The essay must be submitted single-sided, not double-sided.

Each applicant’s essay will be scored using the rubric below.

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<th>4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Reflection</strong></td>
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<td>Applicant presents a thoughtful reflection on service, recounting detailed examples of service experiences.</td>
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<td>The essay meets the criteria set forth.</td>
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<td><strong>Sense of Caring For and About Others</strong></td>
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<td>Applicant’s reflections show deep personal understanding of the importance of service and his/her ability to make a difference.</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Development and Organization of Essay</strong></td>
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<td>Applicant’s essay has an engaging introduction that orients readers and provides a strong conclusion.</td>
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<td>It also establishes a natural/logical sequence of reflection, using effective transitions to convey this.</td>
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<td><strong>Language Usage</strong></td>
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<td>Applicant’s essay maintains a clear point of view, uses relevant descriptive details, and shows a command of English Language conventions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicant’s essay has some lapses in point of view, lacks effective descriptive details, and has some distracting errors in conventions.</td>
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Applicant attempts to complete reflection on service, but no details about the service experiences are included. The essay meets some of the criteria set forth.