



PLEASURE WALKING HORSE ASSOCIATION OF TENNESSEE

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

PURPOSE: The mission of the PWHAT Scholarship Program is to provide monetary assistance to our youth members seeking to earn a degree of higher education. The PWHAT Scholarship Program will provide financial assistance to our individual members enrolled for undergraduate study in community colleges, vocational/trade schools, colleges and universities. Assisting the youth of the PWHAT organization will produce future leaders that can carry on the promotion and business of the Pleasure Tennessee Walking Horse both in and out of Tennessee.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: Scholarships are awarded based on prior academic performance, financial need, the essay score, leadership potential and participation in PWHAT programs, including but not limited to volunteer hours. Scholarships are awarded annually, provided that scholarship funds are available. In addition, the scholarship may be renewed yearly provided that a) the award recipient meets the conditions outlined below in Scholarship renewal and b) no other initial applications are received.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The PWHAT will award scholarships based on a comprehensive review process. Areas that are reviewed by the Scholarship Committee include, but are not limited to the following:

- Academic accomplishments
- PWHAT involvement and membership
- Essay describing Horse Industry involvement
- Financial need
- References

PWHAT pays scholarship funds directly to the recipient's school. Scholarships are awarded annually and may be renewed annually if the student maintains a 2.5 GPA each semester and no competing applications are received that year. The PWHAT Scholarship is awarded without regard to race, color, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation.

CRITERIA

- Applicants must be accepted as a full-time student at a college, university, or trade school program for the upcoming academic semester. If scholarship money is awarded, this is the only program that will receive the funds on behalf of the applicant.
- Applicants must be a citizen or legal permanent resident of the United States.
- Applicants must be a current PWHAT member for a minimum of 12 months to apply.
- Applicants must be a graduating senior in high school or currently enrolled in acceptable undergraduate program.
- Applicants must complete and submit a PWHAT Scholarship Application by June 1.
- Applicants must submit essay following criteria outlined in the application.
- Scholarship may only be awarded one time unless determined by the Board of Directors and Youth committee to renew a previous applicant's award for subsequent years of attendance.

TIMELINE

- All applications are due by June 1.
- Presentation of the Scholarship recipient(s) will take place in July of each year.

APPLICATION PROCESS

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS MUST PROVIDE:

- Completed application form.
- Completed Essay
- An academic reference from a guidance counselor or teacher.
- A character reference from a current PWHAT member; may not be from a youth or relative.
- Proof of acceptance at any accredited post-secondary academic, vocational or technical school.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

- Award notification will be given prior to the PWHAT show held in July each year.
- Award amount will be determined by the youth committee and approved by Board of Directors annually based on available funds.

CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY

- 500 word minimum in length, no maximum.
- Topic: Will be related to the Pleasure Tennessee Walking Horse (specific topic to be determined by Scholarship and Youth Committees).

JUDGING

- A Scholarship Awards Committee of 3 judges will rate the essay using the given criteria with unidentifiable essay copies (using numbered indentifiers) to limit any prejudice of judging. This judging committee will be comprised of the PWHAT President, one Director and one PWHAT member at large (that is not a board member).