

Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools

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OROS Scholarship

It is again time to turn your attention to scholarships for your graduating seniors. In recognition of the tremendous efforts put forth by Oklahoma's rural schools to provide their students with quality education in an ever-changing environment, it is with pleasure that the Organization of Rural Oklahoma Schools (OROS) announces the continuation of their annual scholarships. The scholarships given will be one from each of the four quadrants that OROS is divided into and then the Perry Willis Scholarship. The quadrant scholarships are five hundred dollar (\$500.00) scholarships and are funded by OROS along with a few donations from some associate members. The Perry Willis Scholarship is a one-thousand dollar (\$1000.00) scholarship that is funded by Mass Group Marketing. The quadrant recipients are selected by committees from the board of directors. They select their first and second choice for the quadrant scholarship. The OROS officers then select the Perry Willis recipient from the top four quadrant recipients and move the runner-up in that quadrant up to the quadrant recipient.

The scholarship standing committee recommended and the board adopted one change in the rules this year. The new rule states: All applications and essays shall be typewritten. If applications and essays are not typewritten they will be disqualified.

To make the application process a little easier, we have added the option of downloading a form, filling it out on your computer, typing the essay on your computer, printing all of it, and then mailing it to the OROS office. **After printing it, the student needs to sign it, and then have it signed by the principal before mailing it. You can access this form from our web page at orosok.org. Click on the scholarship link on the left side of the home page and that will take you to the form options. Follow the instructions under each option.** The application is also in this newsletter and can still be done the old method if that is what you would like to do but we realize that hardly anyone uses a typewriter and therefore we wanted to make it more convenient to process this application since the new rule now requires all applications and essays to be typewritten.

A few things to remember

1. Member districts can only submit **one** application. If we receive more than one application from a district and cannot tell which one the district nominated, they will all be disqualified. Area Technology schools may submit one applicant per paid membership.
2. You do not have to return the score sheet. This is what our committee uses and is included to assist each district in nominating their best candidate.

3. **All applications and essays must be typewritten.**
4. All applications must be post marked on or before **March 1, 2011.**
5. **This newsletter is sent to member districts superintendents only and the superintendent is responsible for forwarding this information to the appropriate personnel that assist the seniors in the scholarship application process.**
6. The four quadrants are the **Northeast, Northwest, Southeast and Southwest, and are determined by the divisions of Highways I-35 and I-40.**

Scholarship Rules, and Regulations: (Please pass this information to those responsible for scholarship applications.)

1. To qualify, participating schools must be current paid members of OROS.
2. The scholarship will be awarded annually to one graduating high school senior from each quadrant (as classified by OROS) in the state of Oklahoma. There will be no discrimination made as to this scholarship based on race, color, religion, national origin or sex, either by OROS or participating member schools. The quadrants are: Northwest, Northeast, Southeast, & Southwest.
3. Each recipient will receive a one-time cash scholarship of \$500.00, to be used by the student to help defray the costs of post-secondary education and related expenses.
4. Each school is responsible for distributing to its students information pertaining to the scholarship application, rules and deadlines.
5. Each school must screen and evaluate its own applicants, based upon criteria set forth on the OROS Scholarship Application Form, and then choose a single semi-finalist to be forwarded to OROS for consideration.
6. Each paid member school district may submit only one entry for consideration.
7. Entries must be postmarked no later than March 1 of each year in order to be considered.
8. OROS will appoint a scholarship committee consisting of members of its board of directors to determine the winners and one alternate of the scholarship.
9. If a student from an OROS board member's school district is a semi-finalist for the scholarship, that board member will be excluded from any and all aspects of the judging process.
10. The superintendents of the school districts attended by each of the quadrant winners will be notified in writing of the award being made to their students.
11. The scholarship will be awarded on or before the graduation date of each quadrant winner. The scholarship monies will be distributed upon proof of enrollment in a post-secondary institution.
12. Whenever possible, a representative from OROS will attend the school awards ceremony to award the scholarship to each quadrant winner.
13. Area Technology schools may submit one applicant per paid membership.
14. All applications and essays shall be typewritten. If applications and essays are not typewritten they will be disqualified.

OROS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

School Information:

Quadrant _____ (Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest)

School District _____

Applicant Contact Information:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Scholastic Information:

- 1. How long has the applicant attended in this school district? _____
- 2. Is the applicant a graduating high school senior? _____
- 3. What is the applicant's current grade point average? _____
- 4. SAT Score*: _____ ACT Score*: _____

**Note, if applicant is not pursuing a college tract and has not taken The SAT or ACT, this item will not be a factor.*

5. To what post-secondary institutions has the applicant applied? _____

6. To what post-secondary institutions has the applicant been accepted? _____

7. What field of study does the applicant plan to pursue? _____

Other Information (attach a separate sheet if more space is needed):

- 1. Please list applicant's scholastic honors, activities, and/or leadership positions, and year(s) in which those occurred.

- 2. Please list applicant's extracurricular and/or community honors, activities and/or leadership positions, and year(s) in which those occurred.

- 3. On a separate sheet, please give a brief description (not to exceed one page) of the applicant's experiences in a rural educational setting, discussing the benefits as well as detriments of such a setting, as compared to an urban school system. Discuss the applicant's opinion as to whether or not it would be beneficial for rural schools to remain in operation for future generations.

NOTE: This application must be accompanied by a certified 7-semester transcript (through the first semester of the applicant's senior year in high school) and a certified SAT/ACT score sheet.

Verification of information:

I, _____, to the best of my knowledge, have accurately and truthfully answered the questions on this application. I understand that if any of the information on this application is found to be intentionally false or if any responses are not my personal work product, I will be removed from consideration for this scholarship.

Signature of Applicant

Date

To the best of my knowledge, the information on this application sheet is accurate and truthful.

Signature of Principal

Date

OROS SCHOLARSHIP SCORING SHEET (OROS scholarship committee will use this sheet to determine recipients)

Quadrant: _____

School District: _____

Applicant Name: _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EVALUATOR: There are 100 possible points which may be awarded. Questions 1 and 2 are objective (no evaluator discretion), with a set number of points assigned to and awarded from the category into which the applicant falls. Questions 3, 4 and 5 are subjective (evaluator has discretion), with a range of possible points within each category. The evaluator should first choose the category most applicable, then award a point value within the range assigned to that category.

CRITERIA

POINTS AWARDED

- 1. Grade Point Average (Note. *all honors courses must be converted to a 4-point scale*):

(Enter Mandatory Points)

If 4.0, award 25 points
 If 3.5 to 3.99, award 23 points
 If 3.0 to 3.49, award 21 points

- 2. SAT/ACT Scores (If both taken, use highest score)*
 *Note If student is not pursuing a *college tract* and has *not taken the SAT or ACT*, this item will not be a *scoring factor* and the point *total will be prorated according to a 75-point maximum*

(Enter Mandatory Points)

1200[SAT or 27[ACT, award 25 points
 1000-1199 SAT or 21-26 ACT, award 23 points
 999\ SAT or 20\ ACT, award 21 points

- 3. Scholastic Honors, Activities and/or Leadership Positions:

(Enter Discretionary Points)

If well-rounded/excellent, award 11 to 15 points
 If limited/good, award 6 to 10 points
 If few/fair, award 0 to 5 points

- 4. Extracurricular and/or Community Honors, Activities and/or Leadership Positions:

(Enter Discretionary Points)

If well-rounded/excellent, award 11 to 15 points
 If limited/good, award 6 to 10 points
 If few/fair, award 0 to 5 points

- 5. Essay/Opinion Question:

(Enter Discretionary Points)

If excellent reasoning, writing and grammatical skills, award 16 to 20 points
 If good reasoning, writing and grammatical skills, award 11 to 15 points
 If fair reasoning, writing and grammatical skills, award 0 to 10 points

TOTAL POINTS AWARDED

OROS Calendar

OROS Board of Directors Meeting

January 19, 2011

OSSAA Building

Oklahoma City, OK

10:00 A.M.

OROS Board of Directors Meeting

February 16, 2011

OSSAA Building

Oklahoma City, OK

10:00 A.M.

OROS Scholarship Deadline

March 1, 2011