



2016

College Scholarship Program



**Make Sure Your Application Is Complete:**

- ✓ Completed Application Form (2 Copies)
- ✓ Transcript (7 Semesters, 2 Copies)
- ✓ 300-Word Essay (2 Copies)
- ✓ Educator's Statement (2 Copies)
- ✓ Letter of Recommendation (2 Copies)
- ✓ Sponsor Signature From NTCA Member or FRED Donor Circle Member
- ✓ Postmark to FRS no Later Than March 1, 2016

Must have all items on checklist to be considered.  
Please submit all materials together.

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), in cooperation with NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association, seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life throughout rural America by advancing an understanding of rural telecommunications issues. Through its various programs and initiatives, FRS strongly supports the continuing education of rural youth.

## Eligibility

Each applicant must:

- Be a graduating high school senior.
- Be a United States citizen.
- Be sponsored by a current NTCA member or FRED Donor Circle member.<sup>1</sup>
- Be accepted by an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school.
- Have at least a C grade point average (GPA).
- Express an interest to return to a rural community following graduation.

## Application Instructions

- Type (preferred) or print all requested information. Complete the scholarship application in full. If any information is incomplete, the application will be rejected.
- Prepare a 300-word essay on one of the following topics:
  1. Describe your most significant accomplishment, and explain why you believe it to be your most outstanding.
  2. Describe the community in which you live, and indicate how it has influenced the person you are.
  3. What industry or opportunity would entice you to return to a rural community after completing your education, and why?
- The essay portion of the application is worth 35% of your total score. It is the most important section of the application; please make sure to use spell-check and grammar-check before submitting your essay.
- Have a high school teacher or guidance counselor complete the Educator's Statement. Please ask the author to provide two copies of his/her statement.
- Submit one letter of recommendation from a local community leader other than an educator (examples include telephone company personnel, elected official, local business leader, etc.). Please ask the author to enclose two copies of his/her letter.
- Include two copies of your most recent grade transcript (all seven semesters must be represented). Transcript does not have to be an official copy.

- Have the manager, board president or designated employee of your sponsoring company endorse your application, and thus commit to the NTCA member match requirement. Unsigned applications will not be accepted for consideration. Please check with your local NTCA member to see what its requirements are for sponsorships.
- Do not include any photographs with your application.
- All signatures must be provided where indicated on the application.
- All materials, including recommendation letters, must be submitted together.

## Terms and Conditions

- In 2016, FRS will award one scholarship per geographic region of the NTCA membership and one to a student sponsored by an NTCA associate member. The remaining awards will be distributed proportionate to the number of applications received per region. FRS will fund \$2,000 of each scholarship, with the sponsoring organization of each winning student providing a \$500 match.
- Four \$5,000 FRS Staurulakis Family Scholarships will be awarded, with a preference to students who are majoring in math, science, engineering or medicine fields.
- Two \$1,500 TMS scholarships will be awarded to students.
- One \$2,500 Everett Kneece Return to Rural America Scholarship will be awarded.
- The Colt Ford Scholarship, awarding up to \$15,000 to rural students.
- All applications will be reviewed, and winners selected, by a qualified selection committee of educators.
- Scholarships will be awarded on a one-time basis and will not be renewable.
- Awards will be paid upon proof of registration at an institute of higher education, and will be issued by August 2016.
- Scholarships will be awarded without regard to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender or disability.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered. Refer to the checklist on the application form to ensure that all components of the application have been fulfilled.
- Winners will forfeit their scholarship if mandatory paperwork is not received by FRS within 60 days of notification that they have won.
- Winners will be posted on the FRS website, [www.frs.org](http://www.frs.org), by May 1, 2016.

<sup>1</sup> Please contact your local telecommunications provider to determine if it is an NTCA member or FRED Donor Circle member and if it is participating in the FRS college scholarship program.

**This Page Is To Be Completed by One of Your Teachers or Your High School Guidance Counselor**

To Be Submitted by Student With Completed Application.

**\*Teacher/Counselor:** Please fill out, make one copy, and provide both copies to the student.

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's/Counselor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe whatever you think is important about this student, including a description of academic and personal characteristics. We are particularly interested in a candidate's intellectual promise, motivation, relative maturity, commitments to service, integrity, special talents and enthusiasm, hardships overcome (if applicable) and initiative. We welcome any information that will help distinguish this student from others. Please submit your comments below. Attach additional page if necessary.

**Personality & Character Evaluation**

Compared with other high school seniors, how would you rate this student in the following areas?

|                                    | Average | Good | Very Good | Excellent (Top 10%) | One of the Best That I Have Ever Encountered |
|------------------------------------|---------|------|-----------|---------------------|--|
| Positive Attitude                  |         |      |           |                     |  |
| Enthusiasm & Support of the School |         |      |           |                     |  |
| Respect for Others                 |         |      |           |                     |  |
| Leadership Qualities               |         |      |           |                     |  |
| Academic Achievement               |         |      |           |                     |  |
| Sense of Responsibility            |         |      |           |                     |  |
| Principles and Values              |         |      |           |                     |  |

Signature of Evaluator \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:**

1. Please fill out both sides of this application and mail with all attachments and one photocopy of all materials to:
2. Please type (preferred) or print all information in black or blue ink. No pencil.
3. Include all requested attachments with application.
4. Postmark application to FRS no later than March 1, 2016.

**Selection Committee**  
**Foundation for Rural Service**  
**4121 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1000**  
**Arlington, VA 22203-1801**

Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Gender  Male  Female

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s) \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_ High School Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average (please provide your unweighted GPA cumulative through your 7th semester) \_\_\_\_\_

SAT Score (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ ACT Score (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

College, University or Vocational/Technical School You Plan to Attend \_\_\_\_\_

College, University or Vocational/Technical School Admissions Office Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Have You Been Accepted?  Yes  No

Anticipated Major or Area of Study \_\_\_\_\_

*(Students who are majoring in math, science, engineering or medicine will automatically be given preference for the FRS Staurulakis Family Scholarships.)*

**Work Experience:** List your work experience over the last four years, in chronological order, with your most recent job listed first. Attach additional page if necessary.

| Company | Position/Job Description | Employed From | Employed To | Average Hours Per Week |
|---------|--------------------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------|
|         |                          |               |             |                        |
|         |                          |               |             |                        |
|         |                          |               |             |                        |

**School Activities:** List all school activities in which you have participated in the last four years (i.e., athletics, student government, clubs). Attach additional page if necessary.

| Activity | Years (1, 2, 3, 4) | Average Hours Per Week | Comments |
|----------|--------------------|------------------------|----------|
|          |                    |                        |          |
|          |                    |                        |          |
|          |                    |                        |          |

**Community and Volunteer Activities:** List all nonpaid community activities in which you have participated in the last four years (i.e., volunteer efforts, church work). Attach additional page if necessary.

| Activity (i.e., soup kitchen) | Years (1, 2, 3, 4) | Average Hours Per Week | Comments |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------|
|                               |                    |                        |          |
|                               |                    |                        |          |
|                               |                    |                        |          |

**Awards and Honors:** List all awards and honors received in the last four years (including academic awards or honors). Attach additional page if necessary.

| Years | Award or Honor (i.e., Eagle Scout Badge, National Merit Scholar) | Comments (Describe the Honor – Why Given) |
|-------|--|---|
|       |  |   |
|       |  |   |
|       |  |   |

**Special Circumstances:** Describe any additional information you feel the Selection Committee should consider in the selection process (i.e., family need or hardships overcome). Please provide this information in an attachment to this application, typed (preferred) or printed in blue or black ink. Do not answer this question if you feel that there are no special circumstances or important facts to relay.

**Submit essay as attachment:** Essay should be approximately 300 words, typed (preferred) or printed, 12-point font, double-spaced with one-inch margins. Please address one of the following statements:

1. Describe your most significant accomplishment, and explain why you believe it to be your most outstanding.
2. Describe the community in which you live, and indicate how it has influenced the person you are.
3. What industry or opportunity would entice you to return to a rural community after completing your education, and why?

### Applicant Certification

I hereby certify that all of the information provided in this application is complete and true to the best of my knowledge. I hereby grant permission to FRS to contact my references and/or school if necessary, and to use my name and likeness in promotional materials in the event that I am selected to receive a scholarship award.

Signature of Applicant

Date

### NTCA Member or FRED Donor Circle Sponsor Certification

I hereby commit \_\_\_\_\_ (name of company) to provide the \$500 scholarship match required in the event that our sponsored applicant is selected a winner in the FRS scholarship program.

Signature of Sponsoring Manager, Board President or Designated Employee \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Sponsoring Manager, Board President or Designated Employee \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number of NTCA Member Company or FRED Donor Circle Member \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ NTCA Region \_\_\_\_\_

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Mail your completed application, attachments  
and additional copies of all materials to:

**Selection Committee  
Foundation for Rural Service  
4121 Wilson Boulevard  
Suite 1000  
Arlington, VA 22203**

*All applications must be postmarked to FRS  
no later than March 1, 2016.*

### Questions

If you have questions about locating an NTCA member sponsor or FRED Donor Circle member, please contact your local telecommunications provider to see if it is a member of NTCA and what its requirements are for sponsorship. FRS cannot distribute a list of NTCA members.

If you have questions about the application form, please contact FRS at [foundation@frs.org](mailto:foundation@frs.org).

[www.frs.org](http://www.frs.org)

