

National High School Rodeo Association and the National High School Rodeo Foundation

A Partnership in Fostering Continuing Education

The National High School Rodeo Association (NHSRA) annually awards well over one-half million dollars in scholarships through achievements in the arenas at the National High School Finals Rodeo (NHSFR) and the National Junior High Finals Rodeo (NJHFR), as well as through various scholarship competitions, funded through the generosity of national sponsors and NHSRA budgeting and fundraising. Added to that total are over one-quarter of a million dollars in Merit Scholarships funded through NHSRA and awarded by the state and provincial associations with numbers of scholarships based on membership. The National High School Rodeo Foundation (Foundation) awards over \$150,000 annually in scholarships through fundraising and the generosity of private donors. Current data totals \$812,000 in scholarships awarded to NHSRA members in 2017.

Through fundraising and donations of named and memorial scholarships, the Foundation awards scholarships, at a minimum of \$500 each, to all graduating NHSFR qualifiers who complete an application and written essay and who participate in a face-to-face interview. The Foundation welcomes donors who are interested in honoring or memorializing the works of others through named scholarships, as well as those who support the annual fundraisers of the Foundation at the NJHFR and the NHSFR.

NHSR Foundation Scholarship Management procedures include the following:

- A Matching Funds Program is available to provide state and provincial associations the opportunity to fund additional scholarships for senior qualifiers at a rate of \$250 per \$500 scholarship, above the three (3) Foundations Scholarships funded, per state and provincial association, at the full \$500 value by the Foundation.
- The Gist Silversmiths Scholarship Incentive is applied to the Matching Funds Program and incrementally decreases the amount owed by the associations who purchase Gist awards for their associations.
- A Claim Form is provided to all recipients that includes necessary information to provide a check for the scholarship funds. The Claim Form must be accompanied by a student schedule for the semester for which the scholarship will be used.
- Checks are payable to the student and the post-secondary institution. Post-secondary institutions include universities, colleges, vocational and technical schools, as well as entities that provide career certificates and licenses.
- Scholarships are not cash awards and must be payable through an educational institution. They are not payable to the student directly.
- Scholarships are valid for two years after graduation and extensions are awarded, if prior notice is given. Extensions are often requested for mission trips and military service, as well as other personal issues of the recipient.

Procedures for National Qualifiers who are graduating seniors to apply for NHSR Foundation Scholarships that range from \$500 to \$5000:

- Complete the fillable Foundation Scholarship Application from the National High School Rodeo Foundation website at <https://nhsrfoundation.org/forms> or from the National High School Rodeo Association website at <https://www.nhsra.com/programs/foundation-scholarships/>. Once completed online, print and sign.
- Obtain a printed copy of your final transcript from your school.
- Prepare a typed list of your school, church and community activities, including offices held and honors achieved. Print a hard copy.
- Prepare a typed statement of no more than 100 words explaining how this scholarship will make a difference in your future. Print a hard copy.
- Bring the completed application, along with your high school transcript, list of activities, and your statement to the National High School Finals Rodeo in Rock Springs, Wyoming.
- **Submit all documents to the National High School Rodeo Foundation Office in the Exhibit Hall, no later than the 6:00 p.m. deadline on Sunday, July 15. (ONLY typed printed copies are accepted. There are no printers available onsite.)**
- **Participate in a short interview on Tuesday, July 17, at 1:00 p.m., in Exhibit Hall.**
- **Accept your scholarship on Friday, July 20, at 4:00 p.m., in the Exhibit Hall (or it will be mailed to you).**

Questions? Contact Nicky Rodrigue at (337) 794-2929 or Stephanie Rodrigue (337) 540-4623, for more information.