

Ralph N. Hooks Scholarship Fund

First Christian Church, Abilene, Texas

Applicant Information and Requirements

The Ralph N. Hooks Scholarship Fund is an endowed scholarship established under the Last Will and Testament of Elizabeth Ann Hooks Waller, daughter of Ralph and Nelle Hooks. The fund is administered by First Christian Church Abilene, Texas through the Hooks Scholarship Fund Committee. Only the earnings of the fund shall be distributed for providing scholarships for students who are a member of a Disciples of Christ affiliated church located in the State of Texas attending either Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas (TCU) or McMurry University, Abilene, Texas (McM).

An applicant for a scholarship must have been a member of a Disciples of Christ affiliated church located in the State of Texas for the past 12 months or longer prior to the date of application. Special consideration will be given to students who have given service to their church. Preference will be given to applicants who are members of First Christian Church, Abilene, Texas.

Applicants are expected to be disciplined, responsible students who show academic promise based on grades and interviews and have economic need.

Applicants must be accepted for enrollment at TCU or McM as an undergraduate student.

Scholarships are available to current or incoming college undergraduates only.

A student may apply for a scholarship for a maximum of four (4) academic years. The Hooks Scholarship Fund Committee reserves the right to limit or expand the number of years a student may receive a scholarship.

A new application must be submitted each academic year.

Applications are to be submitted between April 1 to April 30 each year.

Scholarship awards will be determined in May of each year by the Hooks Scholarship Fund Committee.

All applicants will be notified whether they have or have not been awarded a scholarship.

Each scholarship shall be for a period of one academic year (one Fall semester and one Spring semester). Scholarships are not available for Summer semesters.

The monetary amount of scholarships for each academic year will be determined by the Hooks Scholarship Fund Committee based upon funds available for distribution, number of applicants, need of individual applicants, other scholarships granted to an applicant from other sources and additional factors that may be considered by the Committee.

Before any scholarship funds are disbursed to TCU or McM, the Hooks Scholarship Fund Committee must be provided with a complete Official Transcript through the most recently completed Spring semester.

Funds will be paid semi-annually by the Hooks Scholarship Fund directly to TCU and McM.

Scholarships awarded to a student which are not used (e.g., a student who is awarded a full year scholarship but does not attend school in the spring semester) will be returned to the Hooks Scholarship Fund.

All students receiving financial assistance from the Hooks Scholarship Fund are expected to take a minimum of twelve (12) semester hours in both the Fall and Spring semesters.

All students receiving a scholarship from the Hooks Scholarship Fund must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA to continue to receive funds or apply for a new scholarship from the Hooks Scholarship Fund.

If a student does not meet these minimum scholastic requirements, the scholarship will be rescinded.

Each scholarship is an outright gift without any requirement of repayment.

Application forms are available through the church's website at fccabilene@outlook.com.

Effective 2/19/2025