

Ohio Quarter Horse Foundation Scholarship Program

Section 1: The OQHF Scholarship Committee was established to provide opportunities for deserving Ohio Quarter Horse Amateurs or Youth members that wish to further their education at a college, university, or other institution of higher learning.

Section 2: Each year the OQHF President shall appoint a Scholarship Committee consisting of at least one OQHF Board member.

Section 3: Scholarships (both new and renewal) will be awarded upon recommendation of the Scholarship Committee and approval of the OQHF Board, dependent upon monies available in the annual budget.

- (a) 60% Scholarship Application Rubric and 40% oral interview
- (b) Three Committee members will score the Scholarship Application using the Scholarship Application rubric and three non-affiliated judges will score the oral interview.

Section 4: Eligible applicants must meet all three of the following:

- (a) Applicant must have been a member of OQHA/OAQHA/OQHYA for three years, whether or not consecutive, including the current year. Ohio residency is not a requirement.
- (b) Applicant must be a high school graduate or a senior in high school who will graduate by July 1 of the application year.
- (c) Applicants cannot have reached their 23rd birthday by December 31 of the application year.

Section 5: Application Process

- (a) Applicants must submit the following written materials:
 - i. A completed application form provided by OQHF
 - ii. Their most current high school or college transcript with cumulative grade point average.
 - iii. Recent Photograph
 - iv. A total of three letters of recommendation from a variety of sources (for example: school administrator, teacher or professor, guidance counselor, or academic advisor, employer, community service supervisor, horse industry professional, or OQHA/OQHF member.

- (b) It is the sole responsibility of the applicant to ensure that ALL application materials are submitted collectively, under one cover, and received at the OQHA Office in c/o OQHF on or before February 15th.

(c) Applicants must also complete an oral interview to be held at the OQHA Office in Columbus, Ohio, on the second Saturday in March.

(d) Applicants submitting all of the required written application materials in a timely manner will be contacted by OQHF staff to schedule an interview time.

Section 6: Scholarship Award Notification

The Scholarship Committee will inform all applicants in writing by May 1 if they have or have not been awarded a scholarship.

Section 7: Disbursement of Scholarship Funds

(a) Scholarship funds will be made available by July 1. Before scholarship funds can be dispersed, new scholarship recipients must provide proof of official enrollment to the college/university/institution they will be attending.

(b) Scholarship checks will be made payable to the college/university/institute, and mailed to the scholarship recipient.

(c) Scholarship funds must be used within twelve months, or returned to OQHF.

Section 8: Renewals

(a) Scholarship recipients are eligible to apply for a renewal of their scholarship three additional times (once per academic year), provided they meet all of the following:

- i. maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.70 or better,
- ii. maintain a current OQHA/OAQHA/OQHYA membership,
- iii. have not reached their 23rd birthday by December 31 of the application year.

(b) To apply for renewal of a scholarship award, recipients must submit a letter (not to exceed one page) which briefly describes the progress they have made towards their academic and career goals in the past year, along with a current transcript showing their cumulative GPA. Renewal request letters and transcripts must be received in the OQHA office in c/o OQHF (together in one envelope) no later than February 15th.

(c) Renewal scholarship checks will be made payable to the college/university/institution and mailed to the recipient by July 1.