



2016 Putnam Chamber Education Foundation Scholarship Program

The Scholarship

The Putnam Chamber Education Foundation (PCEF) seeks to award one (1) \$1,000 scholarship. Scholarships from the PCEF are given to Putnam County residents pursuing education in a business, business-related, or other entrepreneurial field of study.

Scholarship applications will be accepted from residents of Putnam County beginning October 25 through December 2, 2016. The deadline to apply is 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 8, 2016. All application materials must be returned directly to the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce office located at 1100 Reid Street, Palatka, Florida 32177.

Scholarship awardees will be notified by December 21, 2016. The scholarship funds may be used for college tuition and books at any Florida-based accredited educational institution. Awards will be granted on a competitive basis.

Recipient will be presented at the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce's annual awards ceremony in January 2017.

Scholarship Criteria

Applicant must:

- Be a U.S. citizen or legal resident
- Be a resident of Putnam County, Florida
- Be planning to attend or enrolled in an accredited vocational school, community college, or university located in Florida
- Declare an interest in majoring in a business, business-related, or other entrepreneurial field of study

Applicant may:

- Be classified either as a traditional student or a non-traditional student
- Have received a high school diploma or GED

Criteria used to score applications will include, but is not limited to, academic achievements, leadership, community service, extracurricular activities, honors, life achievements, and discretionary additions.

Extra consideration may be given to individuals demonstrating an affiliation with the Putnam County Chamber of Commerce (i.e. parent(s), applicant owns or works for Chamber member business, or applicant served as a Chamber volunteer).

All students are encouraged to apply regardless of academic merit or financial need status; the scholarship committee will consider all eligible applicants and will base award decisions on the entire application, not only test scores, GPA, etc.

Application Process

A complete application packet must include the following materials:

- Scholarship Application
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation
- Personal Statement

Terms

Applicant must submit an application packet on or before the December 8, 2016 deadline. Incomplete applications and e-mail submissions will not be considered. Student must complete the entire application and answer all questions honestly. Applicant may only submit one application; applying more than once will result in disqualification. Scholarship funds will be awarded in the postsecondary school name of recipient's choice upon enrollment verification.

If awarded this scholarship, student must agree to the following:

- Comply with all college regulations, rules, and codes of conduct governing students
- Give consent to release grades to the PCEF
- Remain in good standing as a student

Current recipients may apply for renewal and will be given preference pending availability of funding, and if all of the preceding requirements have been met.

Contact Dana Jones, PCEF Secretary, at dana@chamberpc.com with questions about the Putnam Chamber Education Foundation Scholarship Program.

Putnam Chamber Education Foundation, Inc.
c/o Putnam County Chamber of Commerce
1100 Reid Street
Palatka, FL 32177

Review Process

The first phase of the review will ensure that the basic eligibility criteria have been met and the guidelines observed.

A second review phase will include an external panel that will evaluate each applicant according to the following criteria:

- Complete scholarship application, letters of recommendation, personal statement, GPA, extracurricular activities/leadership, honors and awards

The Putnam Chamber Education Foundation Scholarship Application

SECTION I - APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Mailing Address: Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Numbers: Home _____ Work _____ Mobile _____

E-mail Address: _____

Preferred Contact #: _____

Are you in any way connected to the Chamber? Yes No

If yes, please explain: _____

How did you hear about this scholarship? _____

Are you receiving any other financial aid? _____

What college will you be attending? _____

What is your major or career choice? _____

How many hours do you plan to take in the next term or year? _____

****NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS, PLEASE REFER TO SECTION III***

SECTION II - TRADITIONAL STUDENT STATUS (HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS OR RECENT GRADUATES)

High School Name: _____ City: _____ State: _____

High School Graduation Date: _____

Current Grade Level:

High School Senior -- High School Class Ranking _____ out of _____ (Total of High School Class Population)

High School G.P.A. _____ ACT Score _____ SAT Score _____

-OR- College Freshman College Sophomore

What college are you currently attending? _____

I am a first generation in college student: Yes No

College GPA _____

Are you currently employed? Yes No Full-time Part-time

If yes, provide company name and location: _____

Job title and responsibilities: _____

SECTION III – NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT STATUS (TO BE COMPLETED BY FINANCIALLY INDEPENDENT STUDENTS)

Provide name of high school from which you graduated: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Are you currently attending college? Yes No

If yes, what College are you currently attending? _____

Current grade level: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Previous colleges attended (if applicable): _____

I am a first generation in college student: Yes No

College GPA _____

Are you currently employed? Yes No Full-time Part-time

If yes, provide company name and location: _____

Job title and responsibilities: _____

SECTION IV - EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/LEADERSHIP

Please indicate any activities and organizations in which you have been involved in high school and/or college. List any offices held in each organization:

Activities

Offices Held

SECTION V - HONORS AND AWARDS

List honors and awards you received in high school and/or college:

SECTION VI - ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Two letters of recommendation must be included:

- 1 letter from immediate supervisor or teacher
- 1 letter from an external association (i.e. church, volunteer or civic affiliation)

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Provide a brief statement (300 to 500 words) about yourself, including such factors as what influenced your decision to attend college, your goals after receiving your college degree, how achieving this degree will expand your knowledge, your vision or commitment to community service and your special interests or any other information you believe to be pertinent for the selection committee to consider your application. Additionally, please provide details as to how this scholarship will help you overcome financial or other obstacles to attaining your higher education goals.