

2019



## College Scholarship Program

### Application submission Options:

#### SCHOOL:

Give completed application to your school Guidance Counselor.

#### MAIL:

West Carolina Tel  
Attn: Virginia Smith  
PO Box 610  
Abbeville, SC 29620

#### EMAIL:

Virginia.Smith@wctel.com

Or you can drop your application off at any of the three WCTEL offices.



FOUNDATION FOR  
RURAL SERVICE

### Make Sure Your Application Is Complete:

Submit **two** complete applications (an original and a copy), each including all materials listed below.

Do not seal any of the following documents if possible.

- Completed Application Form
- Transcript (7 Semesters)
- 300-Word Essay
- Educator's Statement
- Letter of Recommendation
- Sponsor Signature From NTCA Member
- Postmark to WCTEL no Later Than February 20, 2019.**

Must have **all** items on checklist to be considered.

**NOTE: Sponsor Signature will be added by WCTEL CEO when application is submitted to WCTEL.**



The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), in cooperation with NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association, seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life in America by advancing an understanding of rural 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–The Rural Broadband Association 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. 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 elected official, local business leader, church leader, etc.). Please ask the author to enclose two copies of his/her letter. Neither WCTEL employee nor Board recommendations are not eligible.**
- Include two copies of your transcripts, including the most recent semester. Transcript does not have to be an official copy.

- **<sup>1</sup> NTCA Member Sponsor Certification will be filled out when application is delivered to WCTEL.**
- 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.

In 2019, FRS will award scholarships per geographic region of the NTCA membership and one sponsored by an NTCA associate member. The 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.

FRS has the following named scholarships:\*

- Staurulakis Family Scholarships focusing on students who are majoring in math, science, engineering and medicine
- TMS Scholarships
- Everett Kneece Scholarship
- Roger Alan Cox Memorial Scholarships

*\*Note: FRS does not require a match for any of the named scholarships.*

## Terms and Conditions

- 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 2019.
- 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, 2019.



## 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 this application and mail with all attachments and one photocopy of all materials to:

West Carolina Tel  
Attn: Virginia Smith  
PO Box 610  
Abbeville, SC 29620

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 WCTEL no later than February 20, 2019.**

Or you can drop it off at any WCTEL location.

Or email it to virginia.smith@wctel.com.

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 7<sup>th</sup> 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.

Table with 4 columns: 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.

Table with 3 columns: 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 the Applicant

Date

NTCA Member Sponsor Certification

By signing this form your company is committing to provide the \$500 scholarship match required in the event that your applicant is selected as a winner in the FRS scholarship program.

NTCA Sponsoring Company Name

Signature of Sponsoring Manager or Designated Employee Date

Printed Name of Sponsoring Manager or Designated Employee

Telephone Number

City State NTCA Region

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