



# CLASS OF 2019 SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES FOR GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

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## ***Introduction***

The Polk County Community Foundation awards scholarships from more than 45 different scholarship funds, including three funds for vocational/technical training. This one application is all you need to complete in order to apply for all Foundation awards for graduating high school seniors. A separate scholarship application is available for adults going back to school. Please refer to the Kirby Handbook of Polk County Area Scholarships, which lists all Foundation scholarships as well as scholarships offered by other local organizations and is updated annually.

## ***Who is eligible?***

- Graduating high school seniors are eligible for scholarships to help with the cost of tuition.
- Students must be residents of Polk County, N.C. or Landrum, S.C. (29356 zip code).
- Landrum residents (29356 zip code) are only eligible for Community Foundation scholarships to attend post-secondary schools outside of South Carolina. Please visit [www.che.sc.gov](http://www.che.sc.gov) and speak with your guidance counselor regarding the numerous scholarship and grant opportunities for South Carolina students attending S.C. public and independent institutions.
- Students who attend Polk County Schools but reside outside of Polk County and Landrum are not eligible for Polk County Community Foundation scholarships. We encourage students who live outside of our service area to research opportunities available to residents of your county.

## ***What types of educational opportunities are funded for graduating high school seniors?***

Awards are given on a competitive basis to students who wish to attend a recognized nonprofit college, university, technical, professional, vocational or other traditional advanced educational or training institution. All awards are for tuition only and each award has its own criteria set by the donors who created the scholarship funds. *(Please note that we have concerns about for-profit educational institutions and programs that are only online. Please contact us if there are special circumstances leading you to consider these types of programs.)*

## ***Value of Awards:***

In 2018, 68 Polk County and Landrum graduating seniors and adults going back to school received awards totaling more than \$260,000. All Foundation awards are a minimum of \$1,000. The maximum scholarships were renewable awards worth \$16,000 over four years. Donors' gifts will allow the Polk County Community Foundation to award a comparable amount this year.

## ***Application Deadline:***

- **Tuesday, November 13, 2018 by 11:59 pm.** *(Class of 2019 Graduating High School Seniors)*
- A separate scholarship application specifically for education focusing on job training may be announced later if funds are available.

**Caution:**

We have provided a checklist to help you turn in a complete application by the firm deadline. The first step to receiving an award is following all directions carefully. Regrettably, each year several applications are not considered on their merits because of simple errors or omissions that could have been corrected with a careful review. Please note the opportunity to have your application reviewed and certified as complete and submitted on time by our Director of Grants.

**Typed vs. Handwritten Applications:**

We offer the option of completing parts of the application using a computer (see below). Applications handwritten neatly with black ink are equally acceptable.

**Applications Online:**

An electronic version of this application is available for download on our website, [www.polkccf.org](http://www.polkccf.org). The application is a .pdf file that may be saved and edited on your computer. Save the blank application file to your computer before you begin working on it. You may type answers into most sections of the application and edit your saved responses on your computer at any time.

\*Although you may fill out portions of the application electronically, you must submit a paper copy of your application to the Foundation. It is not possible to complete and submit the application online.\*

Please note that you will need to complete some sections of the application separately, such as the Essay and Letters of Recommendation. Signatures must be handwritten. Print out your completed application, attach all other required materials and submit your application in one complete package before the deadline.

**Additional Application Hints and Requirements:**

Please refer to the signature page.

**Questions?**

For additional information or help with your unique situation, please contact the Community Foundation at 255 South Trade Street, Tryon, NC, 828-859-5314, extension 226, or by emailing our Director of Grants, Noah Wood at [grants@polkccf.org](mailto:grants@polkccf.org). Office hours are 9:00-4:00, Monday-Thursday and 9:00-12:00 on Fridays. This application is available electronically on the applications page of our website: [www.polkccf.org](http://www.polkccf.org)

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## CHECKLIST

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Use this checklist as an aid to make sure your application complies with all requirements so you are eligible for an award.

### I. Required for All Applicants

- \_\_\_\_\_ Submit all application materials together in one **complete packet**. No presentation binders please.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Deliver your application to the Community Foundation's office by **11:59 pm** on the date of the deadline. Postmarks will not be accepted as proof of meeting our deadline requirements. Applications will not be accepted by email or fax. If you would like to submit your application early, outside of our normal business hours, we have a drop slot in our front door for your convenience.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ Answer **all required questions** and sign and date the application. Questions that are left blank will result in your application being judged incomplete.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Essay.** Topic choices are in the application. Stating your name and topic choice on the first page of the essay is required. *See example on essay page.*
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ All required **transcripts**. See transcript guidelines for Graduating High School Seniors and Home School Students. Please ensure that standardized test scores are included with your transcript.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Two Letters of Recommendation**, in a sealed envelope with the evaluator's signature across the seal. Please note that evaluators must be teachers who are not be related to you. *If you are a homeschool student, please contact the Foundation regarding this requirement.*

### II. Required for Home School Students

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Course of Study Information and Standardized Test Scores.** *See next page.*

### IV. Optional for All Applicants

- \_\_\_\_\_ If you would like to be considered eligible to receive a scholarship requiring financial need, you must submit the attached Polk County Community Foundation Financial Aid Application. We encourage all graduating seniors to complete this information so that you may be considered for as many awards as possible.

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## TRANSCRIPTS

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***All transcripts must be official copies certified by the school and enclosed in a sealed envelope from the school.***

**Graduating High School Seniors attending public or private high schools:** You must submit high school transcripts which reflect all of your high school courses and grades to date as well as any standardized test scores (SAT and ACT) and AP test scores. Please check with your guidance counselor to make sure all available test scores are included with your transcript. For ACT scores, the full Student Report is preferred.

**Polk County High School Students:** You may give the Foundation permission to request your transcript and standardized test scores directly from the PCHS Student Services office instead of including it with your application. See the signature page for more details.

**Home School Students:** Submit appropriate documentation to describe your course of study. You must also include the test results of the most recent nationally standardized test or other nationally standardized equivalent measurement that you took to satisfy the annual state requirement. Some of our donors have established scholarships which require high academic achievement; however, there are many awards which do not require this. To be considered for awards that require high academic achievement, you must submit SAT or ACT test scores.

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## OPTIONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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***All financial information is separated from the general application and is reviewed only by the staff of the Community Foundation. Only our determination of your eligibility for need-based awards is released to the scholarship committee members. We do not use the same formulas used by the federal government to determine need, so our methods allow many more families to qualify for need-based awards.***

- Some of our donors have established scholarships which require graduating seniors to demonstrate financial need. Financial information is only required for students applying for these need-based scholarships. Approximately 1/3 of our named awards require submission of this financial information.
- Students who wish to be considered for need-based scholarships must submit the attached Polk County Community Foundation Financial Aid Application.

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## NOTIFICATION AND PAYMENT OF THE AWARD

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You will be notified in writing of the scholarship decision. If you receive an award, your letter and your Payment Information Form will give you the details about your scholarship.

The Foundation mails payments directly to your school for tuition and fees only. You may ask to have the award applied to tuition for your first or second semester or split. Most one-time awards may be used for tuition in your first or second year of school. We encourage you to work with your school's financial aid office to time the award in a way that maximizes the benefit to you.

Please refer to the Foundation's Dates & Dollars sheet available online and in our office regarding application deadlines and when scholarship decision information will be available.

If you have not received a letter regarding the status of your application by April, you may contact us for more information.



# CLASS OF 2019 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FOR GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

*Please refer to the guidelines and checklist attached to this application.  
Typing into the electronic form available online or handwriting in black ink copy is best for our review.  
Incomplete applications will not be considered. Every question must be answered!*

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle (Preferred)

Permanent Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

I am a resident of the town/city/community of \_\_\_\_\_ (Town)  
in \_\_\_\_\_ County (example: Polk) and have been since the year \_\_\_\_\_.

*Note: Proof of Polk County, N.C. or Landrum, S.C. residency may be required.*

My parents/guardians have different addresses:  Yes  No

*If yes, please list all addresses and explain who you live with:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Submit applications by Tuesday, November 13 at 11:59 pm to:**  
**POLK COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**  
**255 South Trade St., Tryon, NC 28782**  
*If you would like to submit your application early, outside of our normal business hours,  
we have a drop slot in our entrance door available for your convenience.*

**SIGNATURE & RELEASES:**

**I certify that all the information in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and that the essay is my own work. Signing below indicates that I have read and understand the following:**

General Application Requirements: Answer every question, leaving no blanks. Incomplete, incorrectly formatted, late, electronically delivered or faxed applications shall not be considered for funding. All application materials must be submitted together in one package.

Application Format: Some sections of the application require you to fill in blanks by either completing the paper form or the electronic .pdf version available for download on our website. Responses may be saved on the electronic version and printed out to submit with additional materials required by the application. Re-creating forms by re-typing, copying and pasting, etc., causes formatting changes that alter the original application, and make applications more difficult to process; therefore, submitting re-created forms will automatically make your application incomplete.

Application Review: If you wish, you may schedule an appointment well in advance of the deadline with our Director of Grants. During your appointed time, you may ask the Director of Grants to certify that your application has been turned in on time and is complete. The Director of Grants does not have the authority to certify that incoming applications comply with all Foundation policies and IRS mandates. Because any error will prevent your application from being considered, we recommend that you take advantage of this opportunity to have your application reviewed.

Yes     No    If I receive a scholarship, I give my explicit written consent for the college I enroll in to share FAFSA information with the Polk County Community Foundation in order to maximize the benefit of my scholarship, in accordance with Foundation, school, and other policies.

*This helps the Foundation work with your school to determine the maximum amount of your award that can be used without negatively impacting your financial aid package.*

**Polk County High School Students Only:**

Yes     No    I give my explicit written consent for Polk County High School (PCHS) to release my transcript and standardized test scores to the Polk County Community Foundation upon request of the Foundation. I understand that if PCHS does not provide a complete transcript for all years of high school for any reason, the Foundation may require additional transcript information and it is my responsibility to provide the information requested in the timeframe given. My contact information listed in the application is correct and up to date.

*If you mark "Yes" you do not need to include your transcript and standardized test scores now. The Foundation will request and receive them directly from PCHS. If you mark "No" you must include a sealed official transcript with this application. If you check "No" and do not include an official transcript, your application will be incomplete and you will not be considered for a scholarship.*

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Signature of Applicant

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Printed Name

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Date

Name:			
	Last	First	Middle (Preferred Name)

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**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

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**I. HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION**

Name of high school: \_\_\_\_\_ *(if home school, please indicate.)*

Expected graduation date: \_\_\_\_\_ *(month/year)*

If you have taken AP courses, list courses & AP test scores below *(if classes, but no scores, explain):*

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**II. POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION PLANS**

1. What is your plan for education after high school? *(check all that apply)*

- Vocational or technical program certification/degree
- 2-year college degree
- 2-year school first, then transfer to 4-year college
- 4-year college or university
- Graduate school or advanced professional degree
- Other \_\_\_\_\_
- Don't know yet *(Please explain):* \_\_\_\_\_

2. List your top choices of schools and their locations.

School	Location	Status <small><i>(plan to apply, applied, enrolled/committed)</i></small>
<b>a.</b>		
<b>b.</b>		
<b>c.</b>		

3. What are your intended major(s) or area(s) of study? Please list no more than two. Note that "Undecided" is an acceptable answer. \_\_\_\_\_

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4. For Landrum residents: Foundation awards may only be paid to out-of-state schools. Do you plan on attending a school outside of South Carolina?       Yes       No *(if no, do not apply)*

Prospective Out-of-State School(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name:			
	Last	First	Middle (Preferred Name)

**III. INFORMATION TO QUALIFY FOR SPECIFIC AWARDS (OPTIONAL):**

1. Are you planning on completing a technical/job-training/certificate program that will take 2 years or less in order to work in a specific vocation\*?  Yes  No

*\*for example, basic law enforcement/criminal justice, building construction, computer engineering/information technology, cosmetology/esthetics, dental hygiene, nursing (CNA, ADN), welding, etc.*

Type of training: \_\_\_\_\_

Prospective School(s): \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you have a specific vocation in mind for after you have completed your education?

No  Yes: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Are you planning on seeking a 4-year degree in nursing?  Yes  No

*If yes,* a. Have you completed health occupational classes?  Yes  No

b. Are you a Certified Nursing Assistant?  Yes  No

c. Have you served as a junior volunteer at St. Luke's Hospital?  Yes  No

4. Are you planning on studying piano or voice?  Yes  No

*If yes,* a. Do you plan to attend the NC School of the Arts?  Yes  No

b. What is your intended major? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Did you receive a Duke TIP Summer Studies scholarship from the Polk County Community Foundation?  Yes  No Year(s): \_\_\_\_\_

6. Are you, your parents or grandparents employed by Tryon Estates?  Yes  No  
If yes, please explain who is employed there and approximate employment dates.  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. For North Carolina students:

a. Do you meet North Carolina Scholars Diploma requirements? (*Guidance counselors have this information.*)  Yes  No

b. Do you plan to attend a school outside of North Carolina?  Yes  No  Maybe  
Where? \_\_\_\_\_



Name: <u>Hample</u>	<u>Anne</u>	<u>X.</u>	
Last	First	Middle	(Preferred Name)

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**EXTRACURRICULAR SCHOOL ACTIVITIES, JOBS, VOLUNTEERING, HONORS, AWARDS, & OTHER**

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# Example Page

*(Please note: The student who could complete all the made-up activities below would have to attend high school for more than 4 years and possibly possess magical powers to freeze time and be in multiple places at once!)*

**ACTIVITIES/AWARDS:**

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Band: 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Marching Band, Concert Band, 10-20 hours/week. WNC All-District band.

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FFA (Future Farmers of America): 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Land Judging & Vet Science teams

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Soccer: 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade. All-Conference in 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

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HOSA (Future Health Professionals): 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade. About 30 minutes per week.

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Duke TIP: 7<sup>th</sup> grade Summer Studies Program participant/scholarship recipient.

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National Honor Society: 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

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Science Olympiad Regional Place Winner: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

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**LEADERSHIP:**

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Soccer Team Captain in 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

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FFA officer for two years

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Organized fundraising drive at the high school for Thermal Belt Outreach

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**COMMUNITY SERVICE:** I have been volunteering once a week at the library for the past 2 years, once a year at the Special Olympics, every year for 4 years, and 15 hours a week at the animal shelter this past summer. I also help with fundraisers and cleanup projects with my youth group occasionally.

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**JOBS:** I work 10 hours a week as a cashier at a supermarket during the school year and 30 hrs/week during the summer. I've had this job and schedule for 3 years.

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**OTHER:** I help out with my family's business whenever I'm needed, about 10 hours a week.

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See attached copy of my Common Application extracurricular activities and honors sections

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See attached resume of extracurricular activities and honors

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**REQUIRED ESSAY**

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**REQUIRED FORMAT: You must state your name and the essay topic on top of the first page of your essay so that the reader knows which question you are answering. See example at the bottom of this page.\***

We prefer that the essay is typed and double spaced on 8 ½” x 11” paper and is no more than two to three pages long.

**Choose one of the essay topics listed below and tell us which one you picked.**

1. Describe a passion, interest, or life dream that you’ve shown initiative in pursuing over time. What actions have you taken that demonstrate your commitment over the years? (Please also explain if your top school was chosen because it will enable you to further pursue this interest.)
2. What have you learned about yourself, your interests, and talents from your school, work or volunteer activities?
3. What have you chosen to do with your time outside of school in the past two years? Why?
4. If your transcript is not an accurate representation of your scholastic or vocational abilities, please explain why not, and how you plan on being successful in the future.
5. Essay of your choice. (*Note: you may use an essay you’ve written for a college application, the Common Application®, another scholarship application, a school assignment, etc., as long as the essay is about you and it meets the formatting requirements explained on this page. Please include for what purpose the essay was originally written in your title.*)

**Optional:**

You may also provide an extra personal statement on a separate page if there is anything else you’d like to share about yourself.

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***\*Example of required format with the name and essay topic at the top of the first page of your essay:***

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<p style="text-align: center;">Anne X. Hample</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>What have you learned about yourself, your interests, and talents from your school, work or volunteer activities?</i></b></p> <hr/> <p>Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Aliquam bibendum vulputate ornare. Quisque sed urna nulla, id lobortis diam. Aliquam placerat dolor vel ipsum molestie ac dignissim dolor luctus. Integer sollicitudin, ipsum sit amet laoreet imperdiet, accumsan varius nec at ligula.</p>
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*Name*  
(must include)

*Essay Topic*  
(must include)

# OPTIONAL

Name: _____			
Last	First	Middle	(Preferred Name)

## OPTIONAL FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION

### I. Signature (must be signed by the student and a parent/guardian)

*We certify that the information contained in this application is correct. We understand that this financial need form is optional. By completing it, we are confirming that a need-based award is appropriate for our family given our circumstances and the cost of the school our student will attend.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature (required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature (required)

(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number where we can reach the parent/guardian if necessary

*Please respond to the following questions. Your answers will be used to determine eligibility for Polk County Community Foundation scholarships that require financial need. (Responses kept confidential)*

### II. General Information for Families

- Yes     No    Given what we know about our particular circumstances, we think we qualify for scholarships that are only awarded to students who have financial need.
- Yes     No    My family has or will complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).  
*Although it is not required for this application, all graduating high school seniors are encouraged to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Submitting a FAFSA helps millions of students pay for higher education by automatically qualifying them for grants, loans and work-study funds. Colleges require the FAFSA when evaluating financial aid. There is no charge for the FAFSA if you go to the official FAFSA website.*
- Yes     No    My family has or will contact the financial aid office(s) of my prospective school(s) to ask about financial aid.
- Yes     No    My family has or will explore financial aid resources available from the College Foundation of **North Carolina** ([www.cfnc.org](http://www.cfnc.org) & 866-866-2362) or the **South Carolina** Commission on Higher Education ([www.che.sc.gov](http://www.che.sc.gov) & 803-737-2262).
- Yes     No    My family has or will explore if we qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit “*The Earned Income Tax Credit, EITC or EIC, is a benefit for working people with low to moderate income. To qualify, you must meet certain requirements and file a tax return, even if you do not owe any tax or are not required to file. EITC reduces the amount of tax you owe and may give you a refund.*” (source: [IRS.gov](http://IRS.gov)) To learn more, consult a tax professional or contact the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 or [www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit](http://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit).

# OPTIONAL

## Student Special Circumstances

- Yes     No    Are you a foster child?
- Yes     No    Are you emancipated from your parents? *(This means they do not declare you as a dependent on their income tax returns and you are responsible for supporting yourself.)*
- Yes     No    Are you helping to pay family expenses like groceries, utility bills, or rent with your income from work?
- Yes     No    Will anyone else in your household be attending college next year?  
How many (including you)? \_\_\_\_\_

## III. Student Work (current and past jobs)

- Yes     No    Do you work now?

If yes, how many hours a week? \_\_\_\_\_

Where? \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes     No    Did you work this past summer?

If you worked this past summer or are working now, what are you doing with your income?

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Please explain any special circumstances that prevented you from working.

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Are there any other special circumstances that should be considered regarding your family's financial situation? *(OK to leave blank if none)*

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Would this application process be easier for you if it could be completed online?     Yes     No

Where do you have reliable internet access? *(check all that apply)*

- Home     School     Library     None     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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## TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

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**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

To the Student: Please write your name above and give this form to your evaluator to complete. You should choose teachers who can accurately evaluate you based on several of the categories listed in the section below. Your evaluator must complete and return this form to you in a sealed envelope with his or her signature across the seal.

An evaluation received with a broken seal or without a signature will be rejected and your application will be incomplete. Please be sure that your evaluator has sealed and signed the envelope before it is returned to you. Do NOT send your letter(s) of recommendation separately UNLESS you have received prior approval from the Polk County Community Foundation's Director of Grants.

**Teacher's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher's School & Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

To the Teacher: This student is applying for a scholarship from the Polk County Community Foundation. Your recommendation is an important part of helping the committee understand what makes this student a good candidate for continuing his or her education. Do not complete this if you are related to the student by blood or marriage.

**List the courses you've taught this student (Include grade(s): 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, etc.):** \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the checklist below according to your knowledge of the student. The Foundation's goal is that every student in our community be given the opportunity to be successful at something, so please let us know if we can improve this form by including additional categories that you wish we'd asked about this or other students.

**Note:** You may also submit your own evaluation in another format, such as a Common Application® evaluation or a letter of recommendation. *Return all materials to the student in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.*

**Please evaluate the student on the qualities listed below, compared to ALL students you've taught.**

Category	Not Enough Information	Below Average	Average	Above Average (Top 50%)	Excellent (Top 10%)
Scholastic Achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Overall Intellectual Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Language Ability/Writing Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>				
STEM Subjects Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Artistic/Musical Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Creative Thinking	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Disciplined Study Habits	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Good Attitude Toward School	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Good Attendance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Pleasure to Teach	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Kind to Classmates/Others	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Leadership Qualities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Hard Work	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Personal Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Community Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Participation in School Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Grit/Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Potential for Growth	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Likelihood of Success in College	<input type="checkbox"/>				

What are some of the first words that come to mind when you think of this student?

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## TEACHER RECOMMENDATION FORM

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**Student's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

To the Student: Please write your name above and give this form to your evaluator to complete. You should choose teachers who can accurately evaluate you based on several of the categories listed in the section below. Your evaluator must complete and return this form to you in a sealed envelope with his or her signature across the seal.

An evaluation received with a broken seal or without a signature will be rejected and your application will be incomplete. Please be sure that your evaluator has sealed and signed the envelope before it is returned to you. Do NOT send your letter(s) of recommendation separately UNLESS you have received prior approval from the Polk County Community Foundation's Director of Grants.

**Teacher's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Teacher's School & Position:** \_\_\_\_\_

To the Teacher: This student is applying for a scholarship from the Polk County Community Foundation. Your recommendation is an important part of helping the committee understand what makes this student a good candidate for continuing his or her education. Do not complete this if you are related to the student by blood or marriage.

**List the courses you've taught this student (Include grade(s): 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, etc.):** \_\_\_\_\_

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Please complete the checklist below according to your knowledge of the student. The Foundation's goal is that every student in our community be given the opportunity to be successful at something, so please let us know if we can improve this form by including additional categories that you wish we'd asked about this or other students.

**Note:** You may also submit your own evaluation in another format, such as a Common Application® evaluation or a letter of recommendation. Return all materials to the student in a sealed envelope with your signature across the seal.

**Please evaluate the student on the qualities listed below, compared to ALL students you've taught.**

Category	Not Enough Information	Below Average	Average	Above Average (Top 50%)	Excellent (Top 10%)
Scholastic Achievement	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Overall Intellectual Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Language Ability/Writing Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>				
STEM Subjects Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Artistic/Musical Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Creative Thinking	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Disciplined Study Habits	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Good Attitude Toward School	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Good Attendance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Pleasure to Teach	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Kind to Classmates/Others	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Leadership Qualities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Hard Work	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Personal Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Community Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Participation in School Activities	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Grit/Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Potential for Growth	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Likelihood of Success in College	<input type="checkbox"/>				

What are some of the first words that come to mind when you think of this student?

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