

Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission

2016 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The governing board of the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission believes our region's future is enhanced by both wise and forward-looking stewardship of the land, natural resources, and public institutions, and also through thoughtful investment in the next generation. To this end, the Regional Commission has authorized establishment of an annual TRORC Scholarship Program to encourage and recognize high school students pursuing career and life choices consistent with the vision and values of vibrant and sustainable communities, as articulated in our regularly updated Regional Plan.

The Regional Commission strongly believes that academic performance should be one of many factors in awarding scholarships and will also consider a student's record in the following areas:

- participation in community service-oriented activities;
- engagement with civic institutions;
- demonstrated leadership skills;
- demonstrated innovative thinking and problem solving
- demonstrated entrepreneurship and resourcefulness; and
- the need for financial assistance including reasonable assurance that the student will be able to obtain sufficient financing to complete the program.

ANNOUNCEMENT, ELIGIBILITY, APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESS

ANNOUNCEMENT: Pending approval of the scholarship program in its annual budget and the availability of funds, TRORC shall notify of application policies and procedures on or before March 1.

ELIGIBILITY: Students residing in one of TRORC's towns that are successfully completing a state-approved secondary education program and have been accepted into an accredited post-secondary education or career program may apply. Immediate family members of TRORC employees, subcontractors, and the governing board are ineligible. Appropriate fields of study include: engineering, geography, political science, sociology, mathematics, environmental studies, energy, planning, and agriculture/forestry.

APPLICATION: Application shall consist of a written essay that does not to exceed 1,000 words in length describing the applicant's career and life goals and how their post-secondary education, employment, and extra-curricular activities support achievement of those goals. A transcript, letter of acceptance, and three letters of recommendation shall accompany the application. All application materials must be received by the TRORC offices no later than the close of business on the **third Friday in May**. Up to five (5) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. Payment to students will be made upon successful completion of a semester of study, provided the student attains a B average in that semester.

AWARD: The Chair of TRORC's governing board shall appoint no fewer than three and no more than five members drawn from town delegates and alternates to comprise a Scholarship Committee with one member appointed as chairperson. The Committee shall review all eligible applications and make its recommendations to the full TRORC Board at its June Annual Meeting. The decision of the TRORC Board shall be final. Disbursements shall be made in the form of payment to the student for tuition, room, and board with an eligible institution upon submission of proof of charges and the successful completion of study requirements noted above.

QUESTIONS; SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Questions can be directed to TRORC at 802-457-3188. Submissions shall be sent to:

Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission, 128 King Farm Road, Woodstock, VT 05091