Alabama State University Anniston/Calhoun County Alumni Scholarship Fund Guidelines (ASU Alumni Scholarship Fund)

Pictured are (Back Row - L to R) James Hall, William Hutchings, Dr. Richard Hooks, Dr. Clarence Jairrel, Nettie Robinson, Dorothy Carnegie, Georgia Calhoun, Titus Storey, Eula Tatman. (Front Row - L to R) Dr. Ruby Evans, Juanita Jairrel, Dr. Mary Harrington, Cynthia Tucker, Charles Jennings, Alberta Jennings, Julia Oliver.

Tribute: Opportunity is Here, is the motto of Alabama State University. Established in 1867, Alabama State University is an historically black university located in Montgomery Alabama. The Alabama State University Anniston/Calhoun County Alumni Scholarship Fund will provide support for African American graduating seniors from Calhoun County who wish to attend Alabama State University.

“Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.” Marian Wright Edelman

This quote reflects the spirit and inspiration in which this fund was created. ASU Alumni appreciate and recognize the importance of a sound education and have formed the scholarship to continue this legacy.

Award: The one time scholarship is intended to provide full or supplemental funding for full-time enrolled students for one year to Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama.
The Community Foundation will project and allocate the assets available for scholarship awards depending on the Fund’s annual income. This scholarship is strictly funded based on available assets. Moreover, the award amount can change each year or semester based on available assets; therefore, recipients are encouraged to apply for other available financial resources. The Scholarship Advisory Committee will further assess each applicant’s background and financial need to recommend a final award amount.

Eligibility: The ASU Scholarship Fund seeks to identify African-American high school seniors from any Calhoun County public or private high school. Priority will be given to seniors who have excelled academically, exhibited exceptional leadership potential, participated in community service activities and demonstrated financial need. Current Alabama State University students are eligible to apply.

Members of the Calhoun County Alumni Association of Alabama State University, and all donors and relatives of those donors, who contribute more than two percent of the Fund’s assets, are ineligible to receive a scholarship from the Fund. In addition, the Foundation's Board of Trustees, former trustees, staff and Scholarship Advisory Committee members, including their spouses, children, adopted children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, are prohibited from applying or receiving any scholarship, grant or financial award from the Foundation. Based on IRS regulations, this disqualifying exclusion exists for three (3) years after concluding volunteer service or employment.

Application: Application and Guidelines are available online at www.yourcommunityfirst.org. The Community Foundation will maintain and revise as necessary the guidelines and application documents. Applications must be electronically submitted to the Community Foundation by March 1 of each year.

Essay: An essay is required with the application. The student is asked to describe his or her personal aspirations, educational and career goals. The applicant should conclude the statement by identifying the main reason the committee should award him/her the scholarship.

Scholarship Advisory Committee: In compliance with federal law, scholarship recipients shall be selected by the Community Foundation’s Scholarship Advisory Committee, solely appointed by the Foundation’s Board of Trustees. The committee will submit their recommendations to the Foundation’s Board of Trustees for their final approval.

Review Process: Students are required to submit the application packet on-line at www.yourcommunityfirst.org by March 1. Foundation staff will screen the application for clarity and completeness. The applications deemed by Foundation staff to be clear and complete will be presented to the Scholarship Advisory Committee for review and scoring. The Committee will have four weeks to review and score the applications. The scores and recommendations will be compiled by the Foundation’s staff and submitted to the Foundation’s Board of Trustees for final approval.
Award Distributions: The Foundation will make scholarship payment at the beginning of each academic semester. Distributions will not be made until the Foundation receives all required documentation, including but not limited to: (1) certified proof of enrollment from the institution, (2) confirmation that the recipient is enrolled in a program; and, (3) school transcripts. Checks are made directly to the financial administration office at the college or institution. No distribution will be made to any individual for any reason.

Students must notify the Foundation of any additional educational or financial aid grants or awards immediately after notification. Failure to do so may result in the termination of the scholarship. In addition, the scholarship recipient must provide the Community Foundation with an official copy of their transcript at the end of each academic semester should the award extend for more than one term. Failure in any single term to maintain a 2.5 overall grade point average or better on a 4.0 scale will result in the termination of the scholarship award.

Acknowledgments: Communications of gratitude for this award from scholarship recipients can be sent to The Calhoun County Alumni Association of Alabama State University in care of the Community Foundation’s address.

Responsibility of Recipient: Each scholarship recipient is responsible for fulfilling requirements for admission to Alabama State University. The scholarship recipient must enter the post-secondary institution no later than the fall term following the selection and award. No award shall be carried over beyond twelve months from the date of acceptance.

Recipients not completing the full academic year must request the school to reimburse the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama for any funds eligible for refund because of separation from the academic program.

Conditions: The Scholarship Guidelines are not a contract No obligation or liability of any kind will be imposed upon a scholarship recipient; nor will the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama, except as expressly stated in this document, assume any obligation or liability. These guidelines are subject to change; therefore, applicants should inquire if revised guidelines have been issued. Changes may impact the due date of the application documents. The Foundation respects the privacy and confidentiality of all personal information.

The Community Foundation will not; (1) accept applications that are presented after the due date; (2) contact students to locate missing documents such as letters of recommendation, (3) contact students to return the Letter of Acceptance form; or, (4) contact students to provide proof of enrollment in order to receive payment.

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