Farley Moody Galbraith Scholarship Fund Guidelines

Tribute: Mrs. Galbraith, a graduate of the University of Alabama, established this award based on her value of higher education as an alumnus, her family history rooted in Tuscaloosa and her support for area young people. Mrs. Galbraith has donated to many charitable causes in Calhoun County; however, she has established this fund as a permanent gift to encourage high school seniors to attain a four-year college degree.

Award: The Farley Moody Galbraith Scholarship is exclusively for full-time enrolled students to attend the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. The award is not restricted to any specific area of study or academic degree. The award may be used for tuition, institutional room and board, books, and fees at the baccalaureate level. The award is renewable providing that the recipient continues to maintain the standards of these guidelines. The scholarship cannot be extended beyond a four-year period.

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. The award is renewable and may include institutional room and board, books and fees. Even though a scholarship is listed as “renewable” this does not guarantee a future award. 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.

Due to the renewable nature of the fund, it may not be available on an annual basis. Please contact the Foundation to inquire about award dates.

Eligibility: Graduating seniors from any accredited public or private high school, including home school, in the Community Foundation Service area (currently Calhoun, Cherokee, Clay, Cleburne, DeKalb, Etowah, St. Clair, Randolph, and Talladega counties) are eligible to apply for the scholarship without regard to race, religion, gender, national origin or disability. Priority will be given to seniors with: (1) a minimum grade point...
average of no less than 3.0; (2) demonstrated financial need; and, (3) good character in both school and society attested by the letters of recommendation.

Members of the Galbraith family, 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 or career goals, and how the scholarship will help the applicant achieve these goals. The applicant should conclude the statement with the main reason why 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.

It is the hope of Mrs. Galbraith and the Foundation that recipients will continue to qualify for the scholarship. Factors that are used in evaluating, renewing or terminating the award include:
• Continuing to need the award financially;
• Maintaining good personal standards and moral character;
• Meeting the minimum academic requirement of a 3.0 or “B” average on a 4.0 scale;
• Remaining enrolled as a full-time student;
• Progressively completing academic courses of substance aligned with a specific major or degree;
• Graduation within four years unless there is some extenuating circumstance granted in writing by the Foundation; and,
• Lack of assets available to fund the scholarship.

Continuing scholarship payments are made based on regular (quarterly or semester) reviews. The scholarship recipient must provide the Foundation with a copy of the official transcript from the institution at the end of the academic term (quarter or semester) or a copy of the certification document at the completion of the program. Failure to maintain a 3.0 or “B” average or better on a 4.0 scale will result in the termination of the Scholarship.

Students must notify the Foundation of any additional educational or financial aid grants or awards immediately. In addition, the Foundation is to be notified if there is any change in the student’s financial support.

An Award may not be renewed beyond the customary time period required for the completion of a degree: four years for a bachelor’s degree.

Acknowledgments: Communications of gratitude for this award from scholarship recipients can be sent to the Board of Trustees at the Community Foundation’s address.

Responsibility of Recipient: Each scholarship recipient is responsible for fulfilling requirements for admission to the University of Alabama. The scholarship recipient must enter the University of Alabama no later than the fall term following the selection and award; otherwise, they forfeit the 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 institution to reimburse the Community Foundation of Northeast Alabama for any funds eligible for refund because of separation from the academic program.

Conditions: The Farley Moody Galbraith 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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