

Clay-Union Foundation, Inc. Community Service/Scholarship Guidelines and Application

2018-2019 EP-J, Dakota Valley and Vermillion

Background Information

Our foundation was initially founded in 1997 as a 501(c) (3) non-profit corporation. Our mission is to match youth age 5-17 with qualified and screened adult mentors. Our mission continues to be helping youth, and the local community.

Our program and board members recognize the value of volunteering in our communities and want to award a scholarship based on a combination of your community service efforts and scholastic records. Applications from Elk Point-Jefferson and Vermillion will be reviewed, and one scholarship will be awarded. NOTE for 2018-19.-Applications will be accepted from any students attending vocational-tech school for a least a year, community college, or a 4year university.

Application Guidelines

The scholarship is available to a high school senior who has attended school in Vermillion or Elk Point-Jefferson high school. The application is due **Friday, March 15th, 2019 by 5 pm., and will be awarded at the high school award program Mailed apps must be mailed by March 13th to ensure arrival by the deadline.. Late applications will not be accepted. The successful applicant will have:

1. A GPA of at least 2.75 during high school and will graduate with a diploma from Vermillion, Dakota Valley, or Elk Point-Jefferson High school in the spring of 2019.
2. Made significant effort to better our community through their volunteer time in local organizations, church affiliated comm. service, mentoring efforts, or other volunteer efforts that show service above and beyond the call to a program, or efforts to meet local community needs.
3. The ability to provide verification of stated service hours through phone numbers and e-mail contacts, as each applicant should be able to validate their efforts, if needed. The final candidate will be verified before the scholarship is given, as we want to reward your efforts. **Student applications have been eliminated for padding the hours. We recommend listing actual hours. Also, not every activity you do is community service. Reading, singing, music, bible study will not be counted, as you are active in your church. Food pantry, ditch cleanup friends feast or other free meals service outside the church service, with your church group will be counted. Weigh the top four carefully.**
4. Shown leadership in their community by working with a service organization, local group, or any other organized effort, as recognized by an organization, community leader, or supervisor.

Contact Information

Applicant's Name _____

Home address _____

Email _____

Cell or home phone number _____

High School you will graduate from: _____

GPA as of January 5th _____

(Please, attach a copy of transcripts)

Circle years of effort below

Community Service efforts by year - List up to 4 of the most significant and total hours for each listing. Please list total hours/year and total for this community service listing.

Year: Senior _____ Junior _____ Sophomore _____ Freshman _____

Organization or Activity: _____

What did you do? _____ Total hours all 4 years: _____

Contact person to verify: _____ Cell: _____

Year: Senior _____ Junior _____ Sophomore _____ Freshman _____

Organization or Activity: _____

What did you do? _____ Total hours all 4 years: _____

Contact person to verify _____ Cell _____

Year: Senior _____ Junior _____ Sophomore _____ freshman _____

Organization or Activity _____

What did you do? _____ Total hours all 4 years: _____

Contact person to verify _____ Cell _____

Year: Senior _____ Junior _____ Sophomore _____ freshman _____

Organization or Activity _____

What did you do? _____ Total hours all 4 years: _____

Contact person to verify _____ Cell _____

Please provide the following information:

Have you received a full scholarship to attend college? Yes _____ No _____

I will receive, or have received, the following scholarships and amounts:

Goals after high school: Please describe your goals, the major you will pursue, where you plan to attend college, and how you will reach your goals. If you have not chosen a major, please indicate that in this section. Feel free to use the space needed, or attach a separate sheet of paper.

Essay: In 350 words or less, attach an essay on why you are interested in performing community service, its value, and what you have gained or learned while performing community service.

The application with the attached essay and transcripts can be emailed to jgillerrsd60@yahoo.com or mailed to:

John Gille
31911 3rd Avenue
Elk Point, SD 57025

Email us or call for more information or to become a donor!

Thank you for your application. We will contact the award winner regarding the status of the scholarship process once our board has reviewed all the materials. The scholarship winner will be notified and a check mailed to them in early January, after completion of your first semester of secondary education at an accredited institution and verifications you will attend second semester by the university. We want to thank all of you for your efforts to improve our communities, and ask that you to continue your service as you go through life.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors of Clay-Union Foundation, Inc.

Program Director: John P. Gille cell 605-421-5050

Guidelines for scoring applications

John Gille and Travis Aslesen- Elk Point-Jefferson Principal

1. Look for advanced or AP classes students have taken, or Honors classes, which are a higher level than a standard class.
2. Look for the AP classes they took, and how they did, as well as overall GPA with the classes they took. Someone with a lower GPA, but they took harder classes, versus just basic classes. Should be on the score sheet.
3. Community service hours- look closely at what they did: paid lifeguard duty does not count as comm. Service. Church activity is not comm. service, unless it is as a group working outside the church. I.e., cleaning ditches or working friends feast, welcome table, food pantry etc.
4. How much has the student stepped out of their comfort zone? Or is this an activity they would do anyway? Activities are not counted as comm. Service. Consult another board member or group if any questions.
5. If students list hours but do not indicate years, it will be counted as a total, not a per year listing.
6. Consider the essay- it may be well written, yet not address the question. If there are questions on an application, please have another board member address it, and bring to the board for discussion and consideration.
7. Score the apps, then narrow down to top 1-2, then have someone else score them. Final candidates will have his/her comm. service hours verified prior to final approval. Please consider scoring at least one category with a whole number and a decimal, i.e. 4.3 to help avoid ties at the end. Look at the level of writing, is it coherent, and readable, or is it at a lower grade level? The board will be notified once verification is complete as to the final recipient. Checks will be mailed at the end of first semester.

Score sheet for Clay-Union Foundation Inc. Community Service Scholarship

Please score applications based on the criteria given in each category. A point total will determine the final candidates. Please use a decimal along with the whole number on at least one category, i.e. 4.3, so we can avoid ties at the end. Very difficult to score a perfect 20, please look closely at grammar, content and depth of writing.

GPA

- 5 points: GPA over 3.5 and taking high level classes in H.S
- 4 points: GPA of 3.0 to 3.5 and some difficult classes but not substantial
- 3 points: GPA above 3.5; did not take high level classes-basic core only
- 2 points: GPA 2.75 to 3.0, some difficult classes but mostly core class only
- 1 point: GPA should be much higher given basic core classes taken

Score _____

Community service

- 5 points: Clear commitment above 40 hrs community service in a variety of projects and organizations
- 4 points: Less than 40 hours total over 4 years
- 3 points: Less than 30 hours total community service in last 4 years
- 2 points: Less than 20 hours or concentrated in limited areas
- 1 point: All efforts concentrated in less than 3 areas <15 hrs

Score _____

Goals after high school

- 5 points: Can clearly indicate the school they will attend and major
- 4 points: Can indicate school but not possible major yet
- 3 points: Has narrowed schools down to 3 or less-no major yet
- 2 points: Has not selected any schools yet or no ideas on majors
- 1 point: Unable to indicate any school, goals or majors yet

Score _____

Essay

- 5 points: Clear, concise writing with a clear purpose and the student is clearly motivated to be involved in comm. service and a purpose to their life.
- 4 points: Well written, but essay does not highlight goals, why involved in community service, or what they gained from their efforts
- 3 points: Student's writing is somewhat disorganized and unfocused
- 2 points: Essay does not reflect student's reasons for community service
- 1 point: Student's essay was not completed or was subpar

Score _____

Total application score _____ of 20 total possible points