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**The Nelson Family Trust Scholarship**

***2023-2024 version***

Higher education has been an important value to the Nelson family for a century. Our uncle, Elna H. Nelson, PhD (U of Michigan, NYU) joined the faculty of the Bloomsburg Normal School (now Bloomsburg University) as the director of health education and remained there for essentially all of his career. The Nelson Field House on the Bloomsburg University campus commemorates that distinguished career and contributions to the university. Subsequent generations have also recognized the value of higher education on improving their lives. The children (Jack, Joanne (Pineno), Richard) of his brother, Victor L Nelson, and his wife, Ruth, of Wyoming and their grandchildren (Chris (Pineno), Justin (Pineno), Jeremy) have continued that legacy. In recognition of the impact that higher education has had on their lives, the family is offering scholarships to worthy students graduating from Wyoming Area High School to help achieve their future aspirations.

 Scholarships will be awarded for *up to* 4 years based on semester grades and *the awardee's*continuation as a STEM major.  Selection process will be based on the strength of the application*, a*required essay, resume, and an interview.

**Included in the scholarship awards the top three(3) graduating seniors (based on cumulative ranks from Grade 09 to the end of  Semester 1 Grade 12 will receive Merit Based scholarships for four years based on semester grades and continuing to matriculate at a four year school as a** **STEM major**.

All scholarships will be awarded based on the students’ overall academic performance, admission (and commitment to attend) their university of choice, a financial need to help achieve their goals when the university financial aid package does not meet all the student’s needs, and demonstration of interest in the area of study.

Each scholarship ***is renewable*** ***However,*** the renewal will be contingent on adequate academic performance **each** semester as defined by at least a B average at the end of each academic semester.

The total sum of the distributed scholarship grants will be no greater than $25,000. Each award will be determined individually and will be based on the recommendations of the Nelson Family Trust nominating committee. Payments (generally 50% of the scholarship award) will be made directly to the university *by*The Luzerne Foundation (TLF)upon receipt of the scholarship commitment form which you will receive from Mrs. Fedor who will provide it to the Nelson Family Trust Nominating committee chair and TLF. The remaining amount will be provided to the university directly upon receipt of your official transcript for Semester 1 indicating your qualifying GPA and continuation in the STEM program.

**CRITERIA FOR SELECTION**: Applicant must be a graduating Wyoming Area senior who has been accepted as a full time student at a 4 Year College/University. Selection will be based on the following:

 1.   Completed application

2.   Overall academic performance.

3.   Required essay (1)

4.   Required Interview

**ESSAY REQUIRED:** Each applicant is required to write a **well-crafted essay** (at least 500 words). Stating the reason for their interest in the targeted area of study (STEM), how they intend to use their education in the future and what receiving the scholarship would mean to them.

\*\* In addition to the essay the applicant must provide the nominating committee a statement of what the expected family contribution (EFC) to their education should be as determined by their FAFSA application.

**EACH OF THESE CRITERIA MUST BE INCLUDED IN YOUR APPLICATION:**

1.     \*\*\*ONLY **STEM** majors should apply for this scholarship.

2.    Must submit **2** letters of recommendation.

3.     LIST your **Ideal First Choice College** which you applied to and would really like to be accepted to and attend.  Include if you have this information if you were accepted to this school.

4.     List ***all*** colleges where you have applied ***including*** any **letters of acceptance** you have already received.

5.    **RESUME**is crucial to selection here.

6.    You must submit **2 (TWO) COMPLETE PACKETS FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP**

7.    An **INTERVIEW** is part of the criteria for selection for this scholarship.

8.    Required submission of EFC (**Expected Family Contribution**) from your FAFSA Application.