

GBRA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Information and Guidelines

INFORMATION

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority has established the GBRA Scholarship Program to award scholarships to three deserving senior high school students living in the following ten counties of GBRA's service area: Kendall, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun and Refugio. **Three one-time scholarships to a four-year college/university or a two-year technical/trade school will be awarded.** All graduating seniors meeting the eligibility requirements may submit a scholarship application.

The purpose of the scholarship program is to provide financial assistance to talented high school seniors who otherwise might not be able to attend college. GBRA scholarships are awarded without regard to race, sex, national origin or religion. Scholarships can be applied toward tuition, fees, books and/or housing. Payment will be made directly to the recipient's selected institution. Recipients will be recognized at a luncheon with the GBRA General Manager. **Because GBRA's fiscal year ends August 31, scholarship payment must be sent to the student's designated institution prior to that date.** Confirmation of student's enrollment at that institution must be provided even if the school has not officially billed the student for classes.

For scholarships to a four-year college: Each scholarship is a one-time \$2,000 payment to the institution the recipient attends. Recipients may attend any accredited four-year college or university and must complete a minimum of 12 hours per semester (unless received during summer enrollment).

For scholarships to a two-year technical/trade school: Each scholarship is a one-time \$2,000. Recipients must enroll in an accredited Technical/trade School or two-year degreed program. **This scholarship is for students who are seeking a two-year associate or technical degree or certification and do not plan on transferring to a four-year college.**

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

GBRA's goal is to encourage and assist students to fulfill their educational endeavors. The following guidelines will be used to determine eligibility and to evaluate applications:

1. Any senior residing in the 10-county service area (Kendall, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun and Refugio) of the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority is eligible to apply for the GBRA scholarship.
2. The student must be nominated by his/her high school and have an overall "B" average.
3. The student must be selected as a finalist by a Selection Committee chosen by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority and as a recipient by the same Committee.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

The following factors will be considered in the evaluation of each application:

1. **Grades, Course Work and Test Scores**

The applicant must have an overall grade average of "B" or better and have pursued a curriculum that indicates a potential for success in the course work to be pursued.

2. **Personal Incentive, Volunteerism and Extracurricular Activities**

The student should list his/her extracurricular school activities, community involvement, and work experience.

3. **Personal Statement** -The statement should describe the students background, future plans, career goals, and why he/she would like to be considered for the scholarship award.

The personal statement plays a critical role in helping the screening committee select finalists for the selection process. Encourage your applicants to spend an adequate amount of time and effort preparing their statements.

4. **Financial Need**

Basic information about the family's income, financial obligation, and ability to pay for college expenses is required. This information will be kept confidential by GBRA's Selection Committee.

5. **Personal Interview**

A Selection Committee chosen by GBRA will interview finalists.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

All applications for the GBRA Scholarship Program **must be on the official GBRA Application form (additional applications may be downloaded from the web at www.gbra.org), must be submitted by the high schools, must have the required 2 copies and must be received in the GBRA Seguin Office by the close of business on March 8, 2012. Envelopes should be marked "GBRA Scholarship Application Enclosed" on the outside of the envelope.** Applications should be mailed to:

**CONNIE ROTHE, SCHOLARSHIP COORDINATOR
GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY
933 E. COURT STREET
SEGUIN, TEXAS 78155
1-800-413-5822**

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
FOR A COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY OR TRADE SCHOOL**

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: (Please use typewriter or print using black ink).

The items that follow are designed to collect information about your background, interests, and plans. Your response will be used only in connection with your application for this program and to develop a brief biographical sketch if you are selected to receive a scholarship.

All shaded areas must be complete or your application will not be considered.

Name (first, middle, last) _____ Social Security Number _____

School Name _____ (Street Address) _____

(County) _____ (City) _____ (Telephone) _____

Permanent Home Address (Street) _____ (City) _____ (State) ____ (Zip) _____

Home Telephone _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Father's Full Name _____ Occupation _____

Home Address (if different from yours) _____

Mother's Full Name _____ Occupation _____

Home Address (if different from yours) _____

If someone other than a parent supports you, explain here:

Number of dependent children (excluding applicant): _____ **Ages:** _____

Are any of your relatives employed at the school you attend? Yes _____ No _____

FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Please list all information relevant to the individual(s) who contribute to your support).

As a student, how much of your own funds do you plan to contribute to your education? \$ _____

Total household annual adjusted gross income before taxes \$ _____
(Copy of last Tax Return must be attached - please blackout your social security #'s)

All other income/support for student (child support, etc.) \$ _____

Comments regarding your parent's, step-parent's, or guardian's financial status that may be important information for the Selection Committee:

SCHOLASTIC INFORMATION: (A copy of your official High School Transcript and your SAT and/or ACT score or Technical/Trade School requirements (if any) must be attached for you to be considered.)

Projected class rank and size of your class (example 121/505) _____ What percentile? _____

GPA (current) _____ SAT Score _____ ACT Score _____

Which High School courses do you feel have prepared you for college? _____

College/Univ. or Tech./Trade School you plan to attend: _____ Location _____

Have you applied? Yes _____ No _____ Been Accepted? _____ Major? _____

List your school activities (publications, debating, dramatics, music, art, student government, clubs, sports, etc.):

List your community volunteer activities (church work, outreach programs, drug hotlines, hospital work, etc.):

List jobs you have held in the past four years, length of employment, and duties of each job:

Use this space to make other remarks you feel would be helpful to the Selection Committee in evaluating you and comparing you with other applicants for a GBRA Scholarship:

A PERSONAL STATEMENT is to be printed clearly or typed on a separate sheet and attached to this application. Please write a statement describing yourself and why you would like to be considered for a scholarship. This statement is heavily weighted in the evaluation of your application, therefore, give special attention to its organization, content and structure.

SCHOOL RECOMMENDATION:

Please have a counselor or teacher who is familiar with the student's character and scholastic capabilities provide the evaluation requested below.

School Report Release Authorization: To comply with the Federal Privacy Rights of Parents and Students Act, a school must obtain a signed authorization before it can release student information for use in this scholarship program. Permission is hereby given to school officials to release the **school record** and other requested information for consideration in the GBRA Scholarship Program.

Signature of Student _____	Date _____
Signature of Parent/Guardian _____	Date _____

Note to School Official: The above named student is an applicant for a scholarship. To process the application, we need a record of the student's academic performance. This information will be used only in connection with the selection of recipients and will be seen only by qualified persons involved in the selection process.

EDUCATOR EVALUATION	
Name of Evaluator (please print) _____	Relationship to student _____
Known student how long? _____	If teacher, please state subject(s) taught student _____

Considering this student's interests, work habits and life goals please give us your recommendation regarding the student's potential for success in college/university or trade school.

I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.	
Applicant Signature _____	Date _____
Parent/Guardian Signature _____	Date _____
School Official Signature _____	Date _____

After completing this application, return the original and two (2) copies of entire packet, your packet will include an application, official transcript, personal statement and SAT or ACT scores (if applicable) to your counselor.