



Minnesota Family Involvement Council Scholarship Program

Application Packet

Thank you for your interest in the Minnesota Family Involvement Council (FIC) Scholarship Program. The Minnesota Family Involvement Council is a volunteer group made up of staff and volunteers from credit unions around the state. This year we are offering \$10,000 in scholarships. The amount will be awarded in the form of two **“Harvey Bakke” \$1,000 scholarships** and 16 **\$500 scholarships** to a total of 18 Minnesota credit union members.

Please read the following guidelines carefully before starting the application form and essay. **Applications not following the guidelines will not be considered.**

Application Checklist

Applications must be completed and postmarked by Friday, February 1, 2013 (or submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on the due date). Applications submitted after Friday, February 1, 2013, will not be considered.

1. **Application**: Complete the application form. You can reproduce this form if you wish. Complete all areas of the form and return it along with your essay. The application form will count for 25 percent of the evaluation.

2. **Essay Guidelines**: Submit a 500-word, typed essay that answers the questions:

“What is the best financial advice you’ve been given or the hardest financial lesson you’ve learned? How has this impacted your life?”

The essay should not exceed 500 words. Essays should be typed to allow for clarity and readability. Handwritten essays will not be considered. Transcripts and letters of recommendation will not be considered.

**** For judging purposes, please DO NOT use your name or the name of your credit union in your essay or on the essay page.** Essays that include your name or the name of your credit union will be automatically disqualified.

You are encouraged to interview staff members and volunteers at your credit union to gather whatever information you feel is necessary to include in your essay; however this is not required. You are also allowed to use any other research materials. Using this as a guideline, feel free to write your essay in whatever form you see fit. Spelling, grammar and creativity will be considered. Essays will count for 75 percent of evaluation.

Eligibility

To be eligible, you must be a student pursuing post-high school education in the 2013/2014 school year (fall and spring semester) and must be a member of a credit union headquartered in Minnesota that is affiliated with the Minnesota Credit Union Network.* You must be a credit union member in good standing (as determined by your credit union). The school you are planning to attend can be a public or private university, college, graduate or law school, or two- or four-year community or technical college. Schools must be accredited by the U.S. Department of Education.

Applications will be judged in March 2013, and award-winners will receive their scholarship money after completing the first semester of the 2013/2014 school year. Recipients must submit to the FIC a transcript from the fall of 2013, not to include post-secondary classes, and proof of registration for spring of 2014; as well as the name and address of the school you are attending, your home mailing address, your phone number and email address in the event the FIC has questions. Upon receiving this information, scholarship money will then be provided to the recipient in the form of a check payable to the student and the school. **Scholarship recipients who attend school for fall semester only will not receive scholarship money.**

Financial need is not considered in the selection of the scholarship recipients. Immediate family and household members of the Minnesota Family Involvement Council are not eligible to enter.

** Please note: You yourself must be a member of a credit union. You will not qualify if only your parents are members. If you are unsure whether or not your credit union is affiliated with the Minnesota Credit Union Network, ask your credit union.*

Selection

A committee made up of the FIC board members (credit union staff and volunteers from around the state) will select the scholarship recipients. The decision of the selection committee is final and not subject to review.

One "Harvey Bakke" \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in each applicant category:

- **Traditional students** – High school students about to begin college or those taking advantage of the post-secondary education option (PSEO); and
- **Non-traditional students** – Anyone NOT coming directly out of high school, such as those currently attending college, adults returning to school, or those in graduate or law school.

The remaining 16 \$500 awards will be divided proportionally among the number of applicants in each category. Applications in the traditional student and in the non-traditional student categories will be judged separately.

The Minnesota Family Involvement Council will personally notify credit unions with scholarship winners, and the FIC will notify individual scholarship recipients by mail. All scholarships must be claimed by Friday, May 30, 2014. The list of scholarship recipients will be posted online at www.mnfic.org in the spring of 2013, following the March judging meeting. Non-winners will not be notified.

Application Forms

Application forms may be handwritten or typed, but essays must be typed or produced on a computer. Use the FIC's online application to submit via the internet, or print and mail the completed application form to the address below. The application can be found online at www.mnfic.org. Those who submit applications electronically will receive e-confirmation. Applicants who submit more than one application packet (in electronic and/or paper format) will be disqualified. Handwritten essays will not be considered. Application materials will not be returned and become the property of the Minnesota Family Involvement Council.

Deadline

Applications must be completed and postmarked by Friday, February 1, 2013, (or submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on the due date). Mail applications to:

**FIC Scholarship Program, Minnesota Credit Union Foundation,
555 Wabasha Street North, Suite #200, St. Paul, MN 55102**

Please do not send applications to your credit union. Applications received or postmarked after Friday, February 1, 2013, will not be considered.

