



SOUTHWEST ASSOCIATION OF RAIL SHIPPERS

2017 GEORGE J. ELKING JR. SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, the Southwest Association of Rail Shippers (SWARS) provides scholarships to qualified applicants. Scholarships are administered at the sole discretion of SWARS and awards are conferred on a competitive basis. Funding is made available only for the scholastic year beginning in the fall semester following notification of a scholarship award.

Who is eligible?

Undergraduate college students in good standing and college bound high school seniors residing in the SWARS geographical territory. Students from the states of Arizona, Arkansas, Southern California (from and including Fresno and points south thereof), Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and the Republic of Mexico are eligible. All applicants must be citizens of the U.S.A., Mexico or Canada. Students must be enrolled to attend a college or university in the United States, Mexico or Canada. The school must be fully accredited by its regional accrediting commission on higher education and the student must be registered in a course of study leading to a traditional baccalaureate degree.

How are recipients selected?

Scholarship recipients will be chosen from qualified students who meet the eligibility requirements and submit a completed application packet before the deadline. Scholarship recipients will be selected according to merit on a competitive basis and with regard to financial need. The scholarship committee will choose the recipients by evaluating each eligible student's self-description, academic performance, community involvement, employment history and financial status. Additional consideration will be given to those pursuing a degree program in a transportation related industry. Selected recipients will be featured on promotional materials at SWARS meetings and on our website. All selected recipients will be asked to submit a picture for this purpose.

What is the amount of the scholarship?

The scholarship stipend is a one-time disbursement typically ranging from \$1,000 to \$4,000 (USD) as determined by the scholarship committee. Funds will be disbursed directly to the college or university at which the recipient is enrolled. Scholarship recipients from prior years are eligible to receive multiple awards but must re-apply each year. A maximum of four (4) awards will be given to any individual.

Where do I send my application?

Completed applications should be sent to:

Dale Diulus
Salt River Materials Group
8800 E Chaparral Rd, Suite 155
Scottsdale, Arizona 85250

When is the application due?

Applications must be postmarked by **April 30**, of each year without exception.

What do I need to include with my scholarship application?

SWARS requires a completed application with the following information.

1. A completed application form
2. Copy of academic transcript
3. Copy of ACT or SAT test results (ACT or SAT test results are optional if the applicant is at least 21 years of age or has completed at least 45 hours of college credit).
4. List of extracurricular activities detailing community involvement and awards
5. Work history
6. Personal statement
7. Academic letter of recommendation from a school counselor, teacher or professor in a sealed envelope
8. Personal letter of recommendation from a person of the applicant's choice in a sealed envelope

PLEASE NOTE – IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH APPLICANT TO ENSURE THAT THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE RECEIVES ALL REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS. THE BEST WAY TO DO THIS IS TO INCLUDE ALL PARTS OF THE APPLICATION IN ONE ENVELOPE SENT TO THE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN.

Application

Must be signed in blue or black ink.

Academic Transcript

Academic transcripts do not need to be certified, a clear copy will suffice.

List of Extracurricular activities

Applicants should detail on a separate sheet their community involvement and extracurricular activities including awards and achievements.

Work History

Applicants are required to submit their employment history. The ideal format is a list in table form indicating job start and stop dates, position title and company name. Resumes will be accepted but should not include any of the applicant's personally identifiable information such as name or address.

Personal Statement

Personal statements should be typed with a maximum length of 2 pages (double spaced). Applicants are encouraged to be creative but should detail career goals particularly those relating to transportation as well as any special circumstances that require consideration. The awards committee reviews all statements anonymously so please do not include any identifying information, such as name or address.

Academic Letter of Recommendation

The SWARS application requires TWO letters as noted above. **The academic letter of recommendation should be from a school counselor, teacher or professor.** The letter should be type-written and sealed in an envelope. The applicants name should ONLY appear on the envelope and not in the body of the letter. The awards committee reviews all applications anonymously so please request that your recommender not include any identifying information, such as name or address, in the letter.

Personal Letter of Recommendation

The SWARS application requires TWO letters as noted above. **The personal letter of recommendation may be from any person of the applicant's choice who has a personal relationship with the applicant. Parents/guardians, grandparents or other relatives are eligible to provide the personal letter of recommendation.** The letter should be type-written and sealed in an envelope. The applicants name should ONLY appear on the envelope and not in the body of the letter. The awards committee reviews all applications anonymously so please request that your recommender not include any identifying information, such as name or address, in the letter.

****PLEASE NOTE - ONLY THE DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE APPLICATION WILL BE CONSIDERED. ADDITIONAL LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION WILL BE DISREGARDED****

Who Can Answer Scholarship Questions?

If you have any questions regarding the scholarship including requests for exceptions, you may contact the SWARS Scholarship committee chair, Dale Diulus, at (480) 850-5757 or email at ddiulus@srmaterials.com.