2015-2016 Civic Engagement Scholarship
Criteria

Statement of Purpose for the Award:
Through the generous support of a community donor, the Clarion University Foundation Inc., and the Center for Leadership & Involvement are proud to offer the Clarion University Civic Engagement Scholarship. This scholarship is intended to help support the education of students who demonstrate good academic performance, show financial need, and commit to providing meaningful service to non-profit and public sector entities within the greater Clarion community.

Scholarships are awarded in the form of a full, in-state tuition credit. Three awards will be made.

Statement of Eligibility:
The Civic Engagement Scholarship is open to full-time undergraduate students who:
- have earned a minimum of 12 credit hours with an overall QPA of 2.5 or better;
- are in good academic and disciplinary standing;
- will have a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on file by March 20, 2015;
- will not be graduating before May 2016.

Application Requirements:
In order to be considered for the Civic Engagement Scholarship applicants must:
- complete the attached “Civic Engagement Scholarship Application”

Application Timeline:
- Completed applications will be accepted from February 2 – March 20, 2015.
- Applications will be reviewed by the committee from March 23 – April 3, 2015.
- Interviews will be conducted from April 6 – April 17, 2015.
- Scholarship winners will be announced at the Reinhard Awards Ceremony, April 22, 2015.

For Additional Information:
Please contact Kelly Ryan, Assistant Director for Center for Leadership & Involvement at kryan@clarion.edu or by dialing 814-393-1688.

Completed applications should be submitted to Greta Lutz in the Center for Leadership & Involvement, no later than 4pm, Friday, March 20, 2015. All submission information is on the last page of the packet.
2015-2016 Civic Engagement Scholarship
Tentative Scholarship Timeline

SUMMER 2015

Work via phone and email to establish personal contacts, identify a service site within Clarion County, and create an initial volunteer plan.

FALL SEMESTER 2015

Scholarship program introduction and orientation: [Week 1-2]
- Meet with campus supervisor, explore program and build service outline
- Meet with site supervisor and initial site visit
- Define schedule for semester

Volunteering and Program development: [Weeks 3-7]
- General service and volunteering at site
- Learn about existing programs, issues, efforts, and partnerships
- Work with site/partner to assess needs

Program management: [Weeks 8-15]
- Continue working with organization
- Develop/implement personal plan

SPRING SEMESTER 2016

Program management: [Weeks 1-7]
- Continue service program
- Consider improvements and changes, maintenance and growth plans

Midterm review and goal setting: [Week 7]

Spring break: [Week 8]

Program continuation and conclusion: [Weeks 9-14]
- Continue service program
- Draw program to a close, or work to ensure support plans are in place to maintain program after scholarship program has ended

Overall program review and goal setting [Week 15]
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT SCHOLARS will:

- Work with the Center for Leadership and Involvement over the summer to secure site placement.
- Serve an average of 12-15 hours per week: 10 hours will be at the individual site placement, the remaining 2-5 hours will be on a team project with the other scholars.
- Maintain service logs and a journal of the scholarship experience.
- Work on a PR plan in conjunction with the Center for Leadership and Involvement and their site.
- Create and maintain a blog of their service experiences which may be shared on the CU website.
- Participate in an end of the year celebration, including a presentation of your work, near the end of the second semester (on or around Week 13).

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT SCHOLARS should also be prepared to:

- Have or get appropriate service clearances if required (ex. Act 23, 33, 34, or FBI).
- Provide their own transportation to service sites and/or events.
- Meet regularly with site supervisor and campus advisor to discuss progress.
2015-2016 Civic Engagement Scholarship Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name__________________________________________________________

Clarion Student ID No.__________________________________________

Preferred Phone No.____________________________________________

Preferred E-mail Address________________________________________

Home Address__________________________________________________________________________

City_________________________ State__________ Zip_____________

Campus Address (if different from home)__________________________________________________

City_________________________ State__________ Zip_____________

ACADEMICS

You must currently be enrolled as a full-time student (12 or more credits per semester), and plan to enroll full-time for the 15-16 academic year in order to apply for the Civic Engagement Scholarship.

Total credit hours completed at the end of the Spring 2015 semester_______ Overall Q.P.A._________

Major ________________________________ Minor______________________________

EMPLOYMENT

Do you work (including work-study) while attending Clarion University? Yes _____ No _____

If so, please list the approximate number of hours per week __________________________________

Please provide a brief employment history:

Employer Name

Position

Dates of Employment

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Provide a brief resume of your previous service experiences. Applications may highlight service completed in affiliation with organizations (school, scouts, faith-based) and/or any work completed on an individual basis. Include description of service/project, role played by applicant, benefit to recipients, benefit to self, and the name of the partner/partnering agency sponsoring the work.

Select the service area below in which you have the strongest interest:

__ Children/education (ex: school programs, anti-bullying, career development)
__ Environment/agriculture (ex: recycling, community gardening)
__ Human rights (ex: equality, wellness, safety)
__ Social issues (ex: literacy, obesity, senior care)
__ Economic issues (ex: government, poverty, unemployment)
__ Animal rights/welfare (ex: rescue, service pet training, and endangered species)

Briefly describe how your interest in that area developed, and what is being done in that area that is appealing to you. In what ways do you feel you could make a contribution? Your description should include any special skills and abilities that would enhance your work.
What specific need exists in the Clarion area related to your service interests? How does the issue you selected show up in the Clarion community and/or region? What knowledge and efforts are currently in place in support of addressing the issue?

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

What special knowledge and skills do your hope to develop by serving as a Civic Engagement Scholar?

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Are there particular organizations or individuals you are interested in partnering with for this program?

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______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please list all service organizations or groups that you are currently active with, including any leadership positions. You can elaborate further on the role of the group, projects, events, etc. in your cover letter.

Community Organizations/Groups (in your hometown, Clarion, etc.)

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Campus RSOs/Organizations/Groups

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________
PERSONAL LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT

What has been your greatest accomplishment so far? Describe the steps you took to achieve this accomplishment and your plans in moving forward after reaching your goal.

____________________________________________________________________________

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Describe a time in your life when you have had to overcome a serious challenge. What was the challenge? How did you work to overcome it? What resources did you have to draw on in order to face the challenge?

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As a part of this scholarship program, you will be expected to help promote the service and activities you are doing. What are some ways you might help spread those messages, on and off campus?

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____________________________________________________________________________
Educational Records Release

By signing this form, I attest that the information provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Additionally, I understand that my signature represents my consent to the disclosure of my educational records from Clarion University to authorized representatives of the Center for Leadership & Involvement for the purposes of determining my initial, and continued, eligibility for the above named scholarship. Furthermore, I authorize the Center for Leadership & Involvement to disclose this information to members of the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., and/or the members of the scholarship’s selection committee for the purposes listed above.

Signature: ___________________________ Date: ________________

Applications must be received by 4pm on Friday, March 20, 2015 for consideration.

Please submit the following materials with this completed application:

- Two letters of recommendation, each including the name and phone number of the contact person for verification purposes (may be submitted on letterhead). One letter of recommendation should be in regards to community or university service. The other letter of recommendation should be from a faculty member or current/previous employer.

Completed applications should be submitted to Greta Lutz in the Center for Leadership and Involvement. Applications may be submitted in person, by mail, email or fax.

Return in person to: 251 Gemmell Student Center

Return by mail to: Attn: Greta Lutz
251 Gemmell Student Complex
Clarion University
840 Wood Street
Clarion, PA 16214

Return by e-mail: glutz@clarion.edu

Return by fax: 814-393-2707
Attn: Greta Lutz