MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NUMBER AWARDED:	**Determined annually by MCFA; in 2018 – 51 were awarded in the amount of $127,500.00**
ELIGIBLE AREAS:	**6 public school districts within Montgomery County** **12 senior high schools: Caney Creek, Conroe, Magnolia, Magnolia West, Montgomery, New Caney, Oak Ridge, Porter, Splendora, Willis, The Woodlands and The Woodlands College Park** **In the alternative, students may be enrolled in a private, parochial or specialized school in Montgomery County.** **Any student who resides in Montgomery County (Residence to mean student who lives with parents, parent or legal guardian and sleeps in Montgomery County five or more nights each week), but because of school district boundaries, student is required to attend public school outside Montgomery County, or if a student attends a parochial, private or specialized school outside the county but resides in Montgomery County he/she is eligible.**
CRITERIA:	**Academic standing (top 1/4 of graduating class) minimum SAT (900) or ACT (20). Unrestricted major field. Attend college or university - Must graduate high school at end of spring semester of award or be a midterm graduate at time of application - Leadership - Citizenship - Activities (Participation in 4-H or FFA is NOT a requirement)**
APPLICATION DISTRIBUTION:	**Each participating high school Senior Counselor's Office, Montgomery County Fair Office and MCFA website.**
DEADLINE:	**March 1, 2019 by 5:00 p.m. – Can be mailed to P.O. BOX 869 CONROE, TEXAS 77305 or hand delivered to the Montgomery County Fair Office at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds. NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED**
EVALUATION:	**Scholarship Committee**
PRESENTATION:	**Award assemblies of participating high schools/remainder by letter**
PAYMENT:	**Directly to Student Financial Aid Office--per semester stipend**
MAINTAINING ELIGIBILITY:	**Report grades, maintain 2.5 average on a minimum of 12 semester hours, and comply with all policies**

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

SCOPE

The Montgomery County Fair Association will award a minimum of twelve (12) scholarships to outstanding students representing the public school districts within the Montgomery County area.

These districts are the public school districts within Montgomery County, to include Conroe, Magnolia, Montgomery, New Caney, Splendora and Willis.

The total number of eligible public high schools is twelve (12) – Caney Creek, Conroe, Magnolia, Magnolia West, Montgomery, New Caney, Oak Ridge, Porter, Splendora, Willis, The Woodlands and The Woodlands College Park. For a high school to be eligible, it must be an accredited Texas public high school within a participating district and must graduate a senior class within the school year for which the scholarship will be awarded. One scholarship is designated to be awarded to each eligible high school within the district.

EXCEPTION: Any student who resides in Montgomery County (Residence to mean student who lives with parents, parent or legal guardian and sleeps in Montgomery County five or more nights each week), but because of school district boundaries, student is required to attend public school outside Montgomery County, or if a student attends a parochial, private or specialized school outside the county but resides in Montgomery County.

Additional scholarships may be awarded at the discretion of the committee, including but not limited to eligible students who attend a parochial, private or specialized school.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The Montgomery County Fair Association will provide official application forms in sufficient quantity to each participating high school Senior Counselor's Office. It shall be the responsibility of each counselor to distribute applications to interested students. Additionally, applications will be available through the Fair Office or on the website.

Each applicant will submit an official Montgomery County Fair Association scholarship application form directly to the Fair Office. The application may be filled out on a computer or neatly handwritten. ONLY ONE SIDED COPIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply for this scholarship award, each candidate must meet the following criteria of residency, academic standing, college enrollment plans and demonstration of leadership, character, citizenship and economic need.

Academic Standing: The applicant must be ranked in the upper quarter of his/her graduating class at the completion of the first semester of his/her senior year or at the time of his/her mid-term graduation. The ranking is to be verified as part of the official transcript or by an accompanying certification from an appropriate school official.

Graduation: The applicant must graduate at the end of the spring semester immediately following the awarding of the scholarship or have been a mid-term graduate at the conclusion of the semester

immediately preceding the awarding of the scholarship.

College Entrance Exam: The applicant must have taken either the SAT or ACT college entrance examination and furnish proof of a minimum SAT score of 900 or a minimum ACT score of 20 as part of the application. Proof of the score may be part of the official transcript or a copy of the test results must be attached to the application.

Collegiate Acceptance/Enrollment: The applicant must enroll in a college or university and participate in a curriculum leading to a bachelor's degree. If available, proof of acceptance for enrollment at such an institution shall be furnished as part of the application; a copy of the applicant's formal acceptance letter by the institution will suffice. Applicant must indicate choice of major and career planned.

Activities: Leadership potential and character of the applicant should be demonstrated through the applicant's responses to the categories of the application detailing school, extracurricular and community activities and achievements. Personal references should provide additional information as well.

Narrative: Each applicant must include a typed narrative of no less than 1-1/2 pages and a maximum of two pages, on 8-1/2"x11" sheets – 12 font – double spaced. In this narrative, the applicant may supply any information which he/she feels is pertinent to the application receiving proper consideration. It must explain your educational and career goals. Include how this scholarship can assist you in obtaining these goals. Applicant's name, address and high school should be typed as a heading to the narrative in the upper right-hand corner of page one.

Photo: EACH APPLICANT MUST FURNISH A BUST PHOTOGRAPH, NO SMALLER THAN 2"x3" AND NO LARGER THAN 5"x7" PRINTED ON PHOTO PAPER. A WALLET SIZE GRADUATION PICTURE IS RECOMMENDED. Photo should be identified with applicant's name typed on a label affixed to the back of the photo. DO NOT USE PERMANENT MARKER. Photos should be enclosed in an envelope and included with the application. (Should the applicant receive a scholarship, these pictures will be used for all publicity). The same photo should also be emailed by the application deadline to scholarships@mcfa.org, using the applicant name as the jpg file name.

References: Each applicant must submit three letters of personal reference. References may be typed or handwritten and should include the name, address and daytime phone number of the person making the recommendation. These letters must be signed and immediately followed by the Recommendation Forms. References should indicate knowledge of applicant's character, determination to complete a college education and other factors which will assist evaluation. No more than three letters may be submitted, and no letter should exceed two pages in length. TWO (2) RECOMMENDATIONS MUST BE FROM SCHOOL EMPLOYEES (SUCH AS TEACHERS, COUNSELOR, ETC.) AND ONE MUST BE FROM ANOTHER PERSON, NOT SCHOOL PERSONNEL (SUCH AS MINISTER, EMPLOYER, OR ANOTHER PERSON THAT IS NOT RELATED TO THE APPLICANT).

Documentation: Each application must be accompanied by an official transcript showing academic average and grading scale through four years of high school, class size and official ranking of applicant; proof of SAT/ACT scores; narrative; photo; and references.

Deadline: Applications with all accompanying documentation and letters of recommendation must be received in the Montgomery County Fair Association Office from the applicant no later than March 1, 2019 by 5:00 p.m.

Applications will not be returned and become the property of the Montgomery County Fair Association.

EVALUATION PROCEDURE

For purposes of evaluation of applicants, a selection committee of the Montgomery County Fair Association will review all properly completed applications. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

A rating sheet will be used as part of the evaluation process, with each applicant scored individually on the basis of the criteria outlined in the eligibility section. Personal interviews are optional with committee.

NOTIFICATION OF RECIPIENTS

Notification to the school will be made prior to the completion of the Spring semester in which the scholarship is to be awarded. The scholarship will be presented at each participating high school's awards assembly by a representative of the Montgomery County Fair Association. Recipients are expected to attend. Private, parochial or specialized schools will be notified by letter.

PAYMENT OF STIPEND

It is the responsibility of each scholarship recipient to notify the Montgomery County Fair Association office of the address of the financial aid office and/or scholarship office of the college/university which the recipient will attend in the fall semester. Payment of the award will be made in stipends per each full semester in which the recipient is enrolled for 12 or more semester hours and remains in good standing academically.

To maintain eligibility for stipend payment, a student must comply with all scholarship policies of the Montgomery County Fair Association.

INTERPRETATION

The Montgomery County Fair Association, through its selection committee, officers and/or board of directors, reserves the final and absolute right to interpret, weigh, enforce, evaluate and/or apply these scholarship program guidelines and/or requirements, and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto or otherwise arising out of, in connections with, or incident to this scholarship program.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

NAME_____
(Last) (First) (MI)

MAILING ADDRESS_____ **PHONE**_____

CITY_____ **STATE**_____ **ZIP**_____

SCHOOL YOU ATTEND_____

SOCIAL SECURITY #_____ **LIVE WITH**_____ **RELATIONSHIP**_____

HAVE YOU BEEN A MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR PARTICIPANT? _____

IF SO, STATE YEARS YOU PARTICIPATED_____

APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS

Please complete all parts of this application. If any part of the form is not applicable to you, please mark it "NA". Additional pages may be attached if needed.

EACH APPLICANT MUST FURNISH A BUST PHOTOGRAPH, NO SMALLER THAN 2"x3" AND NO LARGER THAN A 5”x7” PRINTED ON PHOTO PAPER. A WALLET SIZE GRADUATION PICTURE IS RECOMMENDED. Photo should be identified with applicant's name typed on a label affixed to back of the photo. DO NOT USE PERMANENT MARKER. Photos should be enclosed in an envelope and included with the application. (Should the applicant receive a scholarship, this picture will be used for all publicity). The same photo should also be emailed by the application deadline to scholarships@mcfa.org, using the applicant name as the jpg file name.

Each application must be accompanied by an official transcript showing academic average and grading scale through four years of high school, class size and official ranking of applicant; proof of SAT/ACT scores; narrative; photo; and references.

Give three recommendation forms to people who know you well. TWO (2) RECOMMENDATIONS MUST BE FROM SCHOOL EMPLOYEES (TEACHERS, COUNSELOR, ETC.) AND ONE (1) MUST BE ANOTHER PERSON WHO IS NOT RELATED TO YOU (MINISTER, EMPLOYER, ETC.) All three recommendations letters should be returned along with the Recommendation forms. The completed application package should be returned no later than March 1, 2019 by 5:00 p.m.

I. FAMILY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Father's occupation and employer:

_____

Mother's occupation and employer:

_____

Family taxable income (2018) after deductions: _____

Number of children in family: ____ Pre-school:____ K-12:_____ College:_____

II. COLLEGE/CAREER PLANS

College you are planning to attend:

First Choice:_____

Second Choice:_____ Third Choice:_____

Have you made application to this/these institution(s)? _____

Intended Major area of study: _____

Your career goal: _____

PSAT score: _____ SAT score: _____ ACT score: _____

III. ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

Extra curricular activities and years participating:

Honors:

Community Activities, hobbies and interests:

Work experience (please give job description, employer and dates employed):

IV. ACADEMIC STANDING

In what quartile would you graduate in at this point in time? _____

Rank in graduating class: _____ Size of Class: _____

Your cumulative grade point average: _____

V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In the space provided below, please give any additional information about you or your family that might help the selection committee better understand you and your circumstances.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION
SCHOLARSHIP RECOMMENDATION FORM

STUDENT APPLICANT'S IDENTIFICATION #_____
(Fair Office Will Complete)

RECOMMENDATION LETTER
AUTHOR: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE (DAYTIME): _____

RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT: _____

Please complete this form, followed by your recommendation letter and return to student applicant. This form must be included with completed scholarship application. The purpose of this recommendation is to ascertain your perception of the student applicant and his/her candidacy for the Montgomery County Fair Association scholarship. We would like for you to briefly detail your experiences and provide your insight on the practical reasons for this student to receive this scholarship award. We thank you for your response.

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YOUR CHECK LIST FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

- ☐ **MUST BE IN TOP ¼ OF GRADUATING CLASS**
- ☐ **MUST HAVE A MINIMUM SAT OF 900 OR ACT OF 20 – OFFICIAL PROOF, IF NOT ON TRANSCRIPT**
- ☐ **APPLICATION MUST BE ON AN OFFICIAL MCFA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION, EITHER FILLED OUT ON A COMPUTER OR NEATLY HANDWRITTEN**
- ☐ **APPLICATION MUST BE ONE-SIDED COPIES ONLY.**
- ☐ **TYPED NARRATIVE OF NO LESS THAN 1-1/2 PAGES AND A MAXIMUM OF TWO PAGES – 12 FONT – DOUBLE SPACED**
- ☐ **EACH APPLICANT MUST FURNISH A BUST PHOTOGRAPH, NO SMALLER THAN 2"X3" AND NO LARGER THAN 5"X7" PRINTED ON PHOTO PAPER. A WALLET SIZE GRADUATION PICTURE IS RECOMMENDED. Photo should be identified with applicant's name typed on a label affixed to the back of the photo. DO NOT USE PERMANENT MARKER. Photos should be enclosed in an envelope and included with the application. (Should the applicant receive a scholarship, this photo will be used for all publicity). The same photo should also be emailed by the application deadline to scholarships@mcfa.org, using the applicant name as the jpg file name.**
- ☐ **OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT**
- ☐ **THREE LETTERS OF PERSONAL REFERENCE – TWO FROM SCHOOL EMPLOYEES AND ONE FROM ANOTHER PERSON, NOT SCHOOL PERSONNEL (SUCH AS MINISTER, EMPLOYER, OR ANOTHER PERSON THAT IS NOT RELATED TO THE APPLICANT). LETTERS MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THE RECOMMENDATION FORMS.**

RETURN ALL MATERIALS TOGETHER, PREFERABLY FLAT, IN A 9X12 ENVELOPE, WITH NO STAPLES OR PAPER CLIPS. ARRANGE MATERIALS IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

#1 - PICTURE

#2 - SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

#3 - ANY ADDITIONAL PAGES OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES AND/OR HONORS

#4 - NARRATIVE

#5 - REFERENCES

#6 - IF AVAILABLE, PROOF OF ACCEPTANCE TO COLLEGE

#7 - TRANSCRIPT (Transcript may be sealed by school if required)

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE IN THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION OFFICE BY FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2019 BY 5:00 P.M.

NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.