



Petaluma Valley Rotary Club

Ritko Vocational and Education Fund Scholarship Application

Due February 9, 2024 - No late submissions will be accepted.

Personal Information (if not applicable, insert n/a)

Name _____ Age _____

Email _____ Phone/cell # _____

Address _____ City with zip code _____

Current School or Last School Attended _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Occupation _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Occupation _____

Further Education Goals

What occupation or profession do you want to pursue? _____

Where and how would you use the scholarship funds? (be specific: for example: tuition, books, living expenses, transportation) _____

What type of school or schools do you plan to attend?

_____ Trade School _____ Junior College _____ State College/University _____ Other 4-year school

Please list the school(s) that you have applied to or hope to attend: _____

List all other scholarships which you have applied for or have been awarded: _____

School Record

Current or Last School Attended: _____

What is (was) your Grade Point Average (GPA)? _____ or General Grades: _____

What are some of your interests outside of school? _____

Essay: Please complete a one-page essay in the space provided on page 3 of this application. Please tell us about yourself, include any challenges or obstacles you have faced or overcome. Include any circumstances and/or financial needs that you would like the Scholarship Committee to take into consideration. Describe what you want to achieve if you are selected to receive this scholarship.

Letter of Recommendation: Attach one letter from someone who has witnessed your determination to succeed; this can be from anyone in your life who knows you well (mentor, pastor, family friend, teacher, or other responsible adult)

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Scholarship Eligibility: This scholarship is intended to provide a helping hand for young people who face special challenges in achieving educational or career advancement or in obtaining conventional educational scholarships. Applicants who have suffered financial hardship; difficult family or housing situations; or who have made poor personal decisions but demonstrate they are rehabilitated and willing to accept responsibility for their own future (certification of at least 12 months of recovery must be proven); or who have learning disabilities that may hamper them academically but do not prevent them from pursuing educational and career objectives. The Committee is looking for those who have demonstrated the determination to complete school with improving grades.

To qualify for a grant, an applicant must be applying to an accredited trade or vocational school, junior college, college or university in California. There is no limitation on eligible recipients based upon sex, race, or religion. Recipients shall be U.S. Citizens by birth or naturalization.

Dollar Amount of Scholarship: There will be one (1) \$3,000 scholarship.

Qualifications required to be considered: Applicants must be a resident of Petaluma, Penngrove or Cotati with minimum accumulated Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.00 or above in most recent school.

Future Career Goals. The applicants need not be committed to a two or four year college. Any reasonable future career path that includes further education will be considered. Examples of careers likely to be considered favorably include farming, viticulture, accounting/bookkeeping and related software training, nurse, Nurse Practitioner, midwife, Licensed Vocational Nurse (LVN), phlebotomist, medical/lab technician, mechanic, machinist, welder, or truck driver.

Letters of Recommendation. Attach one letter of recommendation. The letter may be from a teacher, mentor, pastor, employer, family, friend, or other responsible adult in organizations the applicant is involved. You are encouraged to request a Letter of Recommendation from someone who has witnessed your determination to succeed.

Packet requirements. Your application packet must include the following:

1. The completed application form (this form).
2. Your essay, one page, as described on this application form.
3. At least one letter of recommendation, as defined above.

Note: Education and related expenses will be paid directly to providers. Scholarship winners are required to attend one Petaluma Valley Rotary Club meeting.

NOTE: Scholarship Winners are required to attend awards night April 17, 2024

You can access the application form on line at <http://petalumavalleyrotary.org/ritko> and submit it online at submit@petalumavalleyrotary.org or by mail to Ritko Fund c/o Jim O’Grady, 1485 McGregor Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94954 on or before February 9, 2024 at 5 PM.

Questions: email submit@petalumavalley.org or call Jim @ 707-773-0783

Type or paste your essay below. Keep essay to space provided.