

\$75,000 Available to Rural Students!

College Scholarship Program 2012



Make Sure Your Application is Complete:

- Completed application form (2 copies)
- Transcript (7 semesters, 2 copies)
- 300-word essay (2 copies)
- Educator's statement (2 copies, sealed)
- Letter of recommendation (2 copies, sealed)
- Sponsor signature from NTCA member
- Postmark to FRS by March 1, 2012

MUST HAVE ALL ITEMS ON CHECKLIST TO BE CONSIDERED

Please submit all materials together.

Foundation 
for Rural Service

\$75,000 Available to Rural High School Seniors

The Foundation for Rural Service (FRS), in cooperation with the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA), seeks to sustain and enhance the quality of life throughout Rural America by advancing an understanding of rural telecommunications issues. Through its various programs and initiatives, the Foundation strongly supports the continuing education of rural youth.

In 2012, FRS will award thirty (30) \$2,500 scholarships to rural high school seniors, one per geographic region of the NTCA membership and one to a student sponsored by a NTCA associate member. The remaining nineteen (19) awards will be distributed proportionate to the number of applications received per region. FRS will fund \$2,000 of each scholarship, with the sponsoring organization of each winning student providing a \$500 match.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be a graduating high school senior.
- Be a United States citizen.
- Receive any telecommunications service from a current NTCA member ¹ (except for students sponsored by an associate member company).
- Be accepted by an accredited two- or four-year college, university or vocational-technical school.
- Have at least a C grade point average (GPA).
- Express an interest to return to a rural community following graduation.

Application Instructions

- Type (preferred) or print all requested information.
- Complete the scholarship application in full. If any information is incomplete, the application will be rejected.
- Prepare a 300-word essay on one of the following topics:
 1. Describe your most significant accomplishment and explain why you believe it to be your most outstanding.
 2. Describe the community in which you live and indicate how it has influenced the person you are.
 3. What industry or opportunity would entice you to return to a rural community after completing your education, and why?
- Have a high school teacher or guidance counselor complete the Educator's Statement. Statements must be submitted in a sealed envelope from the author. *Please ask the author to enclose two copies of his/her letter.*

- Submit one letter of recommendation from a local community leader other than an educator (examples include telephone company personnel, elected official, local business leader, etc.). Recommendations **must** be submitted in a sealed envelope from the author. *Please ask the author to enclose two copies of his/her letter.*
- Include your most recent grade transcript (all seven semesters must be represented). Transcript does not have to be an official copy.
- Have the manager or board president of your sponsoring company endorse your application, and thus commit to the NTCA Member match requirement. Unsigned applications, or those signed by a person other than the manager or board president, will not be accepted for consideration.
- Do not include any photographs with your application.
- All signatures must be provided where indicated on the application.
- All materials, including recommendation letters, **must** be submitted together

Terms and Conditions

- Thirty (30) \$2,500 scholarships will be awarded — one per geographic region (10) of the NTCA membership and one to a student sponsored by a NTCA associate member company.² The remaining nineteen (19) awards will be distributed proportionate to the number of applications received from each NTCA region.
- All applications will be reviewed, and winners selected, by a qualified selection committee of current educators.
- Scholarships will be awarded on a one-time basis and will not be renewable.
- Awards will be paid upon proof of registration at an institute of higher education, and will be issued in August 2012.
- Scholarships will be awarded without regard to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender or disability.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered. Refer to the checklist on the application form to ensure that all components of the application have been fulfilled.
- Winners will forfeit scholarship if mandatory paperwork is not received by FRS within 60 days of winning notification.
- **Winners will be posted on the FRS website, www.frs.org, by May 1, 2012.**

Applications must be postmarked to FRS by March 1, 2012. Mail completed application and all attachments to:

**Selection Committee
Foundation for Rural Service
4121 Wilson Boulevard, Tenth Floor
Arlington, VA 22203**

¹ Please contact your local telecommunications provider to determine if they are NTCA members and if they are participating in the FRS college scholarship program.

² Associate members include businesses that provide goods and services to the telecommunications industry and are current members of NTCA.

Instructions:

1. Please fill out both sides of this application and mail with **all attachments** and **one photocopy** of all materials to:
2. Please type (preferred) or print all information in blue or black ink. No pencil.
3. Include all requested attachments with application.
4. Postmark application to FRS no later than March 1, 2012.

Selection Committee
Foundation for Rural Service
4121 Wilson Boulevard
Tenth Floor
Arlington, VA 22203

Name *First* *Middle* *Last*

Email Address

Mailing Address

City State Zip

Telephone () Gender Male Female

Name of Parent(s) or Guardian(s)

High School High School Telephone ()

Grade Point Average *(please provide your un-weighted GPA cumulative through your 7th semester)*

SAT Score *(Combined)* ACT Score *(Combined)*

College or University You Plan to Attend

College or University Telephone *(Admissions Office)* ()

Anticipated Major or Area of Study Have You Been Accepted? If No, When Will You Hear?

Work Experience: List your work experience over the last four years, in chronological order, with your most recent job listed first. Attach additional page if necessary.

Company	Position/Job Description	Employed From	Employed To	Average Hours Per Week

School Activities: List all school activities in which you have participated in the last four years (i.e., Athletics, Student Government, Clubs). Attach additional page if necessary.

Activity	Years (1, 2, 3, 4)	Average Hours Per Week	Comments

Community and Volunteer Activities: List all non-paid community activities in which you have participated in the last four years (i.e., volunteer efforts, church work). Attach additional page if necessary.

Activity (i.e., Soup Kitchen)	Years (1, 2, 3, 4)	Average Hours Per Month	Comments

Awards and Honors: List all awards and honors received in the last four years (including academic awards or honors). Attach additional page if necessary.

Year	Award or Honor (i.e., Eagle Scout Badge, National Merit Scholar)	Comments (Describe the Honor – Why Given)

Special Circumstances: Relay any additional information you feel the Selection Committee should consider in the selection process (i.e., family need or hardships overcome). Please provide this information in an attachment to this application – please type (preferred) or print your response. Do not answer this question if you feel that there are no special circumstances or important facts to relay.

Submit essay as attachment: Essay should be approximately 300 words, typed (preferred) or printed, 12-point font, double-spaced with one-inch margins. Please address one of the following statements:

1. Describe your most significant accomplishment and explain why you believe it to be your most outstanding.
2. Describe the community in which you live and indicate how it has influenced the person you are.
3. What industry or opportunity would entice you to return to a rural community after completing your education, and why?

Applicant Certification

I hereby certify that all of the information provided in this application is complete and true to the best of my knowledge. I hereby grant permission to the Foundation for Rural Service to contact my references and/or school if necessary, and to use my name and likeness in promotional materials in the event that I am selected to receive a scholarship award.

Signature of Applicant

Date

NTCA Member Sponsor Certification

I hereby commit _____
(name of company) to provide the \$500 scholarship match required in the event that our sponsored applicant is selected a winner in the FRS scholarship program. Said commitment is for this applicant only and does not commit the company to any ongoing participation in, or support of, this program or the Foundation for Rural Service.

Signature of Manager or Board President

Date

Printed Name of Sponsoring Manager or Board President

Telephone Number of Sponsor ()

City

State

NTCA Region

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THIS PAGE IS TO BE COMPLETED BY ONE OF YOUR TEACHERS OR YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE COUNSELOR.

To Be Submitted by Student with Completed Application in Sealed Envelope. *Teacher/Counselor: Please fill out, copy and place both forms in a sealed envelope before returning to student.

Applicant's Name _____ Date _____

High School _____

Teacher/Counselor's Name _____

Position _____

Please describe whatever you think is important about this student, including a description of academic and personal characteristics. We are particularly interested in a candidate's intellectual promise, motivation, relative maturity, commitments to service, integrity, special talents and enthusiasm, overcoming hardships (if applicable) and initiative. We welcome any information that will help distinguish this student from others. Please submit your comments below — attach additional page if necessary.

Personality & Character Evaluation

Compared with other high school seniors, how would you rate this student in the following areas?

	Average	Good	Very Good	Excellent (Top 10%)	One of the best that I have ever encountered
Positive Attitude					
Enthusiasm & Support of the School					
Respect for Others					
Leadership Qualities					
Academic Achievement					
Sense of Responsibility					
High Principles and Values					

Signature of Evaluator _____

Mail two copies of your completed application and all attachments to:

**Selection Committee
Foundation for Rural Service
4121 Wilson Boulevard
Tenth Floor
Arlington, VA 22203**

All applications must be postmarked to FRS by March 1, 2012.

Please contact your local telecommunications provider to see if you are eligible for this scholarship program.

Questions

If you have questions about locating a NTCA Member Sponsor, please contact your local telecommunications provider to see if they are a member of NTCA. FRS cannot distribute a list of NTCA Members.

If you have questions about the application form, please contact FRS at foundation@frs.org.



www.frs.org

NOTICE:

The application states to send it directly to FRS in Arlington, VA by March 1. **PLEASE DO NOT!!!**

PLEASE SEND APPLICATION TO THE FARMERS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE OFFICE BY FEBRUARY 21, 2012.

**FARMERS TELECOMMUNICATIONS
COOPERATIVE
ATTN: MARKETING DEPARTMENT
P. O. BOX 217
RAINSVILLE, AL 35986**

The needed signature of Fred Johnson, the General Manager, can be obtained when the application arrives at the FTC office.

FTC will then send all applications to FRS in Arlington, VA by March 1, 2012.