Student Service-Learning Scholarship

The Excellence in Education Foundation for PGCPS, Inc. (EEF-PGCPS) recognizes the importance of Prince George's County Public School (PGCPS) students being actively engaged in student service-learning. The EEF-PGCPS wishes to promote the importance of giving back to the community. Therefore, the EEF-PGCPS has established the Student Service-Learning Scholarship for nine **(9)** graduating seniors who best personify an ongoing commitment to "exemplary service-learning."

The **Student Service-Learning Scholarship** will award **$3,500** each to nine **(9)** PGCPS graduating seniors who will continue their education at a post-secondary institution.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a current PGCPS senior.
- Student must have completed a minimum of 24 hours of independent student service-learning hours within the past 12 months; this is above and beyond the required 24 hours of student service-learning hours.
- Student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 for all high school course work.
- Students must include a minimum of three letters of recommendation from individuals who directly supervised their service at the service location. (**Note**: Recommendation letters should be on official letterhead (if possible), specific to the scholarship and current, not an admission to college recommendation letter.) Recommenders will receive a request through the Kaleidoscope online application.
- Student must document obtained service hours **received in the past 12 months on a separate sheet** that are beyond the required 24 and include the service-learning completed, the name of the agency where the service-learning was provided, as well as the dates of service and total hours earned.
- Official transcript must be provided showing student's most current grades and service-learning hours.
- Student must provide documentation of acceptance into a post-secondary institution.
- Student must complete a Kaleidoscope online application form (see link on page 2) and attach all listed items on page 2.

ESSAY – (See additional essay guidelines and rubric on page 3.)

Students must submit a well-developed, typed essay on their student service-learning experience. The essay should be one to two pages in length and should follow the MLA style.

EVALUATION

The evaluation process will consist of a review of all submitted application materials by the Scholarship Review Committee. Finalists' applications will be notified by **May 19, 2023**.

The application must include all of the following to be considered complete:

- Completed Kaleidoscope online application form: https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/scholarships/StudentServiceLearningScholarship
- Official transcript
- Post-secondary institute acceptance letter or official email
- Essay
- Documentation of earned independent service-learning hours received in the past 12 months that are beyond the required 24 hours
- Letters of recommendation **specific to the scholarship** (minimum of three; see criteria on page one). Recommenders will receive a request through the Kaleidoscope online application.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

All materials submitted with the application become the property of the EEF-PGCPS and will not be returned to applicants.

The completed application and related documents must be submitted as indicated in the timeline below by **March 17, 2023**. **Incomplete applications and applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.**

TIMELINE

DATE	ITEM
January 2023	Scholarship Committee will send information to the schools and professional school counselors; information posted on PGCPS and Excellence in Education Foundation websites.
By March 17, 2023	**Electronic Scholarship Submission**: **Deadline is March 17, 2023.** Complete online application form: https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/scholarships/StudentServiceLearningScholarship Attach all components of the scholarship packet - including essay that meets established criteria – in the online application form – **label all components with last name, first name, and name of scholarship for which you applied.** **Questions**: send emails regarding the application to help@mykaleidoscope.com or general questions to excel.scholarships@pgcps.org and include your last name, first name, and name of scholarship applied for in the subject line.
March 20 – April 20, 2023	Scholarship Committee will review application packets – including essays – and determine selection of the top candidates.
By May 12, 2023	Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or CEO's designee may interview finalists and make final selections.
By May 19, 2023	Finalists, parents, and school administrators notified.
June 2023	Finalists and parents invited to attend BOE Recognition Ceremony.

Please direct any questions regarding the application platform to help@mykaleidoscope.com or general questions to excel.scholarships@pgcps.org.
Attachment: Essay Guidelines and Rubric

ESSAY GUIDELINES AND RUBRIC

In a well-developed essay, please address the following questions:

- What was the impact of your service, and how did your student service-learning build a bridge between you and the community which you served?
- What did you learn about yourself and others as a result of your service?

Please also keep in mind the following criteria:

- The applicant's name and address must appear on the top-right corner of each page of the essay.
- The essay must be typed (double-spaced) in either Times New Roman or Arial (font size 12).
- The essay must be two to three pages in length and must be written using MLA style.
- The essay must be submitted single-sided, not double-sided.

Each applicant's essay will be scored using the rubric below.

	4	**3**	**2**	**1**
General Reflection	Applicant presents a thoughtful reflection on service, recounting detailed examples of service experiences. The essay meets the criteria set forth.	Applicant completes a reflection on service and recounting some details of service experiences. The essay meets the criteria set forth.	Applicant completes a reflection on service, but little detail recounted on the service experiences. The essay meets most of the criteria set forth.	Applicant attempts to complete reflection on service, but no details about the service experiences are included. The essay meets some or few of the criteria set forth.
Sense of Caring For and About Others	Applicant's reflections show deep personal understanding of the importance of service and his/her ability to make a difference.	Applicant's reflections show a growing understanding of the importance of service and his/her ability to make a difference.	Applicant's reflections show a limited understanding of the importance of service and his/her ability to make a difference.	Applicant's reflections show that s/he is largely unaffected by the service and her/his ability to make a difference.
Development and Organization of Essay	Applicant's essay has an engaging introduction that orients readers and provides a strong conclusion. It also establishes a natural/logical sequence of reflection, using effective transitions to convey this.	Applicant's essay has an effective introduction and provides a conclusion that sums up the reflection. It has a logical flow, but needs more transitions.	Applicant's essay has an introduction that needs more development and lacks a strong conclusion. It includes unnecessary information and may seem choppy.	Applicant's essay lacks an effective introduction and ends abruptly. It also includes distracting information and has no clear sequence of events/thoughts.
Language Usage	Applicant's essay maintains a clear point of view, uses relevant descriptive details, and shows a command of English Language conventions.	Applicant's essay maintains a point of view and includes relevant descriptive details. There may be a few errors in conventions.	Applicant's essay has some lapses in point of view, lacks effective descriptive details, and has some distracting errors in conventions.	Applicant's essay lacks a clear point of view, mostly lacks or offers no effective details, and has major errors in conventions.