



2022-2023 School Year



14201 School Lane • Room 116 • Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 • www.pgcps.org/foundation

Trade Scholarship

The Excellence in Education Foundation for PGcps, Inc. (EEF-PGCPS) celebrates excellence in career and technical education (CTE) and recognizes the importance of assisting outstanding students to continue to positively impact the economy. The EEF-PGCPS wishes to promote the qualities exemplified in outstanding career and technical education among students within the county who demonstrate a positive impact on the economy in the cause of developing and growing the local, state, national, and global economies. Therefore, the EEF-PGCPS has established the Trade Scholarship for three (3) graduating seniors who best personify “excellence in their Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.”

The **Trade Scholarship** will award **\$3,500** each to three (3) PGcps graduating seniors who will continue their education at a post-secondary institution.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a current PGcps senior.
- Student must have been in attendance without interruption from ninth to twelfth grade in PGcps.
- Student must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 for all high school course work.
- Student must be well rounded and have be enrolled in one of the following PGcps Career and Technical Education completer programs: Automotive Technician, Auto Body Repair, Barbering, Carpentry, Child Growth and Development, Cosmetology, Electrical, Firefighter/EMT, HVAC, Masonry, Nursing, and Plumbing.
- Student must include a minimum of two letters of recommendations from previous teachers, administrators, or sponsors of career and technical education program activities. One letter of recommendation must come from a CTE teacher. (**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.
- 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 – (Please see specific essay guidelines and rubric on page 3.)

Students must submit a well-developed, typed essay on the topic below. The essay should be 1-2 pages in length and follow MLA style.

How has your CTE program impacted your career goals and objectives?

- Include how your work-based learning experiences (within the classroom laboratory and/or internship) has prepared you for this trade.
- Describe how your program of study experiences changed or influenced your future career aspirations.
- Explain how your program of study changed or impacted your life.

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/TradeScholarship>
- Official Transcript
- Post-secondary institute acceptance letter or official email
- Essay
- Letters of recommendation **specific to the scholarship** – (minimum of two; 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/TradeScholarship Attach all components of the scholarship packet - <u>including essay that meets established criteria</u> – 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 – <u>including essays</u> – 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 all 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

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	<p>Applicant presents a thoughtful reflection on career readiness, recounting detailed examples of career readiness</p> <p>The essay meets the criteria set forth.</p>	<p>Applicant completes a reflection on career readiness, recounting some examples of career readiness.</p> <p>The essay meets the criteria set forth.</p>	<p>Applicant completes a reflection on career readiness. Little detail provided on the experience(s).</p> <p>The essay meets most of the criteria set forth.</p>	<p>Applicant made an attempt to complete reflection on career readiness, but no details about the experience(s) are included.</p> <p>The essay meets some or few of the criteria set forth.</p>
Sense of Career Readiness	<p>Applicant's reflections show deep personal understanding of the importance of career readiness and the difference the program has had on his/her life.</p>	<p>Applicant's reflections show a growing understanding of the importance of career readiness and the difference the program has had on his/her life.</p>	<p>Applicant's reflections show a limited understanding of the importance of career readiness and the difference the program has had on his/her life.</p>	<p>Applicant's reflections show that he/she is largely unaffected by career readiness and the difference the program has had on his/her life.</p>
Development and Organization of Essay	<p>Applicant's essay has an engaging introduction that orients readers and provides a strong conclusion.</p> <p>It also establishes a natural/logical sequence of reflection, using effective transitions to convey this.</p>	<p>Applicant's essay has an effective introduction and provides a conclusion that sums up the reflection.</p> <p>It has a logical flow, but needs more transitions.</p>	<p>Applicant's essay has an introduction that needs more development and lacks a strong conclusion.</p> <p>It includes unnecessary information and may seem choppy.</p>	<p>Applicant's essay lacks an effective introduction and ends abruptly.</p> <p>It also includes distracting information and has no clear sequence of events/thoughts.</p>
Language Usage	<p>Applicant's essay maintains a clear point of view, uses relevant descriptive details, and shows a command of English Language conventions.</p>	<p>Applicant's essay maintains a point of view and includes relevant descriptive details. There may be a few errors in conventions.</p>	<p>Applicant's essay has some lapses in point of view, lacks effective descriptive details, and has some distracting errors in conventions.</p>	<p>Applicant's essay lacks a clear point of view, mostly lacks or offers no effective details, and has major errors in conventions.</p>