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FACT SHEET FOR APPLICANTS OF COLORADO MASONS' BENEVOLENT FUND SCHOLARSHIP

PURPOSE: These scholarships are intended to provide financial assistance to deserving students. They are not intended to cover all expenses. In your planning, you should not assume that a scholarship has been awarded until you are officially notified by the scholarship administrator or the scholarship committee. We expect decisions to be made and notifications to be sent out late in May. After acceptances are received, recipients will be posted on the web-site.

AWARD: Award amounts are not determined by the Board until at least March. In the past, we have awarded scholarships up to \$7,000 per year, and are renewable for up to 4 years. These scholarships are intended to assist in obtaining an undergraduate degree from a university or college, or training in other accredited schools of higher education within the State of Colorado. Scholarships are awarded without reference to race, religion, sex, national origin or Masonic relationship.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS:

1. You must be a graduating Colorado Public High School Senior.
2. You must be a citizen of the United States of America.
3. You must attend an institution of higher education within the State of Colorado.
4. Completed applications must be **submitted by April 15** to be considered.

CHECKLIST: (Please arrange your application packet in this order.)

1. Complete all four pages of the application form. It must be signed by both applicant and parent/guardian.
2. Write a personal letter which includes the following topics:
 - a. Your goals and objectives for the future.
 - b. Why you require financial assistance.
 - c. Why you feel you should be selected for our scholarship.
3. A grade transcript covering your entire high school career, including your GPA and class rank.
4. A letter of acceptance from the university, college or institution of higher learning listed on the application.
5. A copy of the Student Aid Report (SAR) from your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For 2024 applications, due to delays in the Dept of Education processing SARs, a copy of the parents' tax return page showing the AGI (Adjusted Gross Income) can substitute for the SAR. Please redact the page to black out social security #s.
6. Four letters of recommendation. (Letters should be from personal acquaintances, employers, clergy, or teachers, preferably who have known you or your family over a period of time. It is best not to have all the letters from teachers. Letters will be reviewed by the Lodge interview committee.

1. You must arrange for a personal interview with members of the Masonic Lodge assigned to your high school. There is a list of Lodges and contact information on our website at: www.cmbfa.org. You should make contact with the Lodge as soon as possible, as interview dates may be preselected by the Lodge. Your application and all required documents must be available for review at your interview. Because of the current Covid-19 restrictions, lodges may, at their discretion, use an on-line platform such as Zoom, or a conference call or other media rather than a face-to-face interview. The Lodge will send an interview letter to the selection committee separately.
2. Following the interview, please submit your complete application and required documents to:
Colorado Masons' Benevolent Fund Association
Scholarship Administrator
PO Box 703
Westminster, CO 80036-0703

The completed application form with all accompanying materials must be submitted together in order no later than April 15 to be considered. Please do not submit any photographs. Any photographs received will be destroyed before the application is submitted to the selection committee.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Applicants will be advised if they were selected or not. Notices will normally be by email. Selections are not usually completed until mid to late May.

All scholarship money will be paid through and managed by the Student Aid Office of the university, college, or other school of higher education.

Your application packet will not be returned to you; in the event that you are not a selected recipient, all documents are destroyed at the end of our committee's selection process.

Please refer any questions regarding the preparation of the application material to your high school counselor, or feel free to contact our office. Our preferred contact method is by e-mail at education@cmbfa.org, or you can contact via the information on the letterhead.