

2014

TEXAS 4-H OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION RULES & GUIDELINES

These rules and guidelines should be reviewed and followed by any Texas 4-H member applying for a 2014 Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship. Both 4-H members and parents/guardians are encouraged to review the rules and guidelines prior to beginning the application process to ensure eligibility and proper completion of application.

ANY INCOMPLETE OR INCORRECT APPLICATION SUBMITTED WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE 4-H MEMBER AND PARENT/GUARDIAN TO ENSURE ALL INFORMATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE PRIOR TO SUBMITTING. ABSOLUTELY NO FOLLOW UP OR UPDATES WILL BE ALLOWED ONCE SUBMITTED.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

October, 2013	Release of 2014 Application
November – January	Scholarship Trainings
November – December	Applicant complete FAFSA
Set by County Office	Application due to County Office
February 7, 2014	Applications due to District Office
February 21, 2014	Applications due to State 4-H Office
April 11, 2014	Interview selection notification
May 9-11, 2014	Interviews in Austin, Texas
June 9, 2014	Awards Assembly in College Station

TEXAS 4-H OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program Opportunity Scholarships are **ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS** awarded each year to applicants based on their academic record, 4-H experience, and financial need (for scholarships for which it is a required criterion). The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Opportunity Scholarship Program is conducted in coordination with the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program, the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. All applications must be submitted through the applicant's county Extension office and meet all criteria to be considered.

Approximately 225 academically-competitive scholarships will be awarded in the 2014 Texas 4-H Scholarship Program ranging in amounts from \$1000 to \$20,000 (amount established by donor). No scholarship recipient whose award is based on this application process will receive less than \$1000 (may require receiving a combination of scholarships totaling \$1000). The Texas 4-H Foundation seeks to ensure that each recipient

receives the highest dollar amount of scholarship for which that recipient is eligible. For the majority of the total scholarships and scholarship funds available, participation in a livestock show is not a requirement for consideration for an Opportunity Scholarship.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarship Program provides scholarships in four different categories. Each scholarship category has its own requirements and criteria. It is up to the applicant to make sure that he/she clearly understands the requirements and completes the application in order to be considered.

- **Baccalaureate Scholarships** - for students who wish to pursue a Bachelor of Science (BS) or Bachelor of Arts (BA) degree from an accredited Texas College or University.
- **Technical Certification Scholarships** - for students who wish to pursue technical certification in a recognized and approved major/course of study and from an approved Texas accredited college listed in the scholarship packet.
- **Collegiate Scholarships** – designated for former Texas 4-H members who have been graduated from high school for at least one year, and completed a minimum of 30 hours of college credit at a grade point average of at least 2.7. Some collegiate scholarships contain other award criteria. (See separate application and instructions).
- **Courageous Heart Scholarships** – scholarships awarded to Texas 4-H members pursuing either a Baccalaureate or Technical degree that have overcome extreme obstacles related to medical, family, and/or education and remained an active member in both 4-H and school.

See the requirements related to each of these scholarships.



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ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL BACCALAUREATE, TECHNICAL, AND COURAGEOUS HEART SCHOLARSHIPS:

1. Be an active member of the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program for the current year and at least the two of the three previous years, have a current enrollment with the county Extension Office where applicant resides, and be in good standing with the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program at all levels (county, district, and state).
2. Be a United States citizen. If the applicant's transcript reflects a place of birth other than the United States, proof of naturalization must be provided with the scholarship application.
3. Be a Texas resident.
4. Be scheduled to graduate from a Texas High School (public, private, or home) during the 2013-2014 school year.
5. Have made formal application to enroll with intent to attend a Texas college or university in the Fall of the year scholarship is awarded. Youth with plans or intentions of attending a non-Texas college/university/trade school are not eligible.
6. Have been accepted into a Texas college/university, technical school by the time of the interview.
7. Complete and pass all necessary standardized test(s) for graduation and admittance to the college and/or university declared in the scholarship application.
8. Meet the entrance requirements for the college or university for which formal application has been made.
9. Not apply for a 4-H and a Texas FCCLA and/or FFA scholarship (application for National FFA scholarships are allowed).
10. Submit a 2014 Texas 4-H and Youth Development Opportunity Scholarship application, which:
 - has all applicable pages completed and correct.
 - is typewritten, except for signatures and initials.
 - contains no supplemental pages that are not requested or required.
 - is accompanied by the student's official transcript for their entire high school education to date (9th-12th), which is signed by a school records official (principal, counselor, registrar, etc.) and certified with a school seal. The student's academic record must reflect **numerical grades** and not alpha grades in order to be considered. The academic achievement record must include a photocopy of the college entrance exam's Official Report of Scores Label indicating the student's SAT and/or ACT scores. If more than one page is submitted, each page of the academic achievement record must display a school seal. If label is not attached, score report from the testing agency must be included with transcript.
11. All scholarship recipients **MUST BE PRESENT** at the 2014 Texas 4-H Roundup Scholarship Interviews, Orientation, Awards Assembly, and donor banquets in order to receive a 4-H scholarship.
12. Application must be complete and correct once submitted for consideration. Any application deemed incomplete or incorrect will be disqualified for consideration.
13. Once an application is submitted no portion or information can be updated, revised, and/or corrected.

ADDITIONAL CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BACCALAUREATE SCHOLARSHIP

1. Score at least one thousand three hundred and fifty (1350) on the SAT or at least nineteen (19) on the ACT.*
**Academic scores, rankings and college entrance test scores (SAT/ACT) will only be accepted up to the application submission date. No updated test scores or academic scores or rankings will be accepted after the application due date. SAT and ACT - A copy of official documentation must be submitted with the application. This may be a copy of the form sent by SAT/ACT or a high-school transcript listing scores. SAT score must be comprised of total*

points from the critical reading, mathematics, and writing sections of the test from a single testing date.

2. Be in the upper one-half of his/her class, based on scholastic rank, for the first three and one-half (3.5) years of high school. Based on scholarship criteria, some scholarships require an applicant to be in the upper one-fourth of their class.

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIP

1. NOT have plans to continue formal education at a Texas college and/or university after the completion of a technical program.

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COURAGEOUS HEART SCHOLARSHIP

1. Completed additional pages in scholarship application related to Courageous Heart application and have included three letters of support outlining in detail, the obstacle and how the applicant has overcome the situation.
2. Courageous Heart applicants do not have to meet the minimum SAT/ACT requirements, however, they must demonstrate through their application future academic achievement.
3. Courageous Heart applicant cannot be considered for other Texas 4-H Opportunity Scholarships.
4. Have documentation of obstacles related to health, education, and/or family.
5. All Courageous Heart Scholarships awarded are \$5,000 in value.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR COLLEGIATE 4-H SCHOLARSHIP

1. Be a United States citizen. If the applicant's transcript reflects a place of birth other than the United States, proof of naturalization must be provided with the scholarship application.
2. Be a Texas resident.
3. Was an active 4-H member in the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program during your high school career.
4. Be attending a Texas college or university and will be attending a Texas college or university to use these scholarship funds if awarded.
5. Will have been graduated from high school at least one year prior to time scholarship payments are initiated in the Fall 2014.
6. Have successfully completed or will have successfully completed thirty (30) semester hours of undergraduate college work by the time scholarship payments are initiated in Fall 2014.
7. Must be carrying a minimum of a 2.7 cumulative GPA for course work completed as of the date of the application.
8. **MUST BE PRESENT** at the 2014 Texas 4-H Roundup Scholarship Orientation, Awards Assembly, and Donor Banquets in order to receive a Collegiate 4-H scholarship.

RIGHT OF REFUSAL, REASSIGNMENT, AND/OR RETRACTION

The Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation, Texas 4-H & Youth Development Program, and the Scholarship Committee has the right to refuse, reassign, and/or retract any scholarship application or scholarship award during the judging, awarding, or post awarding process. Refusal/retraction can be based, but not limited to, unfactual and incorrect information provided in the application, statements made during the interview that contradicts application, or failure to meet any criteria or eligibility requirements.

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINES AND IMPORTANT DATES

To ensure that every applicant is completely aware of the deadlines and dates related to the scholarship process, a list of important dates are below. It is the responsibility of each applicant and their parents/guardians to

know these dates and be willing to participate in all events related to the scholarship process.

- The Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program will not accept or consider any late application!
- Absolutely no excuses will be accepted in 2014 for not participating in the scholarship interview or the scholarship assembly. Therefore, applicants and families should schedule vacations, other award trips, sports activities, etc at other times than those listed below.

October, 2013	Release of 2014 Application
November – January	Scholarship Trainings
November – December	Applicant complete FAFSA
Set by County Office	Application due to County Office
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SCHOLARSHIP DONOR CRITERIA

Donors of scholarship funds establish the criteria that must be followed by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program when considering applicants for scholarships. Applicants will only be considered for those Opportunity Scholarships for which they are fully qualified as determined by donor criteria. Interpretation of the donor criteria is the sole responsibility and at the sole discretion of the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation in consultation with donor representatives. Decisions regarding eligibility and qualifications are final. Criteria is not finalized until donor confirmations are received in late April. The information provided below was the criteria established for the awarding of 2013 scholarships and is for reference only for applicants to see the type of criteria assigned to scholarships.

SCHOLARSHIP	FINANCIAL NEED	CLASS RANK	MAJOR	GPA	SCHOOL TYPE	EXHIBITED AT SHOW	OTHER
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo	YES	Top 1/4	NO	NO	Public, Private, & Home	NO	Must not have received more than \$75,000 in financial aid or scholarships.
San Antonio Livestock Exposition	NO	TOP 1/2	YES - Agriculture, Life Sciences, Engineering, etc. (see list)	NO	Public, Private, & Home	NO	
Richard Wallrath Educational Foundation	YES	TOP 1/4	NO	NO	Public, Private, & Home	N/A	
Fort Worth Stock Syndicate	NO	TOP 1/2	YES - Agriculture & Life Science	NO	Public, Private, & Home	NO	
Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo	NO	TOP 1/2	YES - Agriculture & Life Science	NO	Public, Private, & Home	YES	
Star of Texas Fair & Rodeo	YES	TOP 1/4	NO	90% or higher	Public, Private, & Home	NO	
SALE School Tours	NO	TOP 1/2	YES - Agriculture, Life Sciences, Engineering, etc. (see list)	NO	Public, Private, & Home	Not exhibit, but must serve as tour guide in 2014	
Capital Farm Credit	NO	TOP 1/2	YES - Agriculture & Life Sciences	NO	Public, Private, & Home	N/A	
National Farm Life Insurance	NO	TOP 1/2	YES - Agriculture & Life Sciences	NO	Public, Private, & Home	N/A	
Stiles Farm Foundation	NO	TOP 1/2	YES - Agriculture & Life Sciences	NO	Public, Private, & Home	N/A	Must be attending a Texas A&M System University and reside in one of the following counties: Williamson, Milam, Burnet, Travis, Lee, Bell, or Bastrop
Texas Farm Bureau	NO	TOP 1/2	YES - Agriculture & Life Sciences	NO	Public, Private, & Home	N/A	
Texas Section Society for Range Management	NO	TOP 1/2	Range Science or related degree	NO	Public, Private, & Home	N/A	
TAMU Collegiate 4-H	NO	TOP 1/2	NO	NO	Public, Private, & Home	N/A	Must agree to join TAMU Collegiate 4-H
Texas Tech Collegiate 4-H	NO	TOP 1/2	NO	NO	Public, Private, & Home	N/A	Must agree to join TTU Collegiate 4-H
Brazos Valley Livestock Show	NO	TOP 1/2	NO	NO	Public, Private, & Home	N/A	Must be a 4-H member from Burleson, Grimes, Leon, Madison, Milam, Robertson, or Washington County.

SELECTION PROCESS

Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program Scholarship applications are evaluated in two parts: 4-H experience judging and financial need judging (for scholarships for which financial need is a determining criterion). The scoring categories are divided for evaluation into objective and subjective evaluation. Grade point average (GPA) and SAT and/or ACT points are evaluated objectively using graduated scoring grids, i.e. the higher the GPA, the more points awarded to the applicant. A similar scale is used to evaluate SAT and/or ACT scores. The evaluation of the SAT and/or ACT and GPA scores are an important component of the baccalaureate application. The 4-H experience, financial need and interviews are subjectively evaluated. Eligibility for the various scholarships is determined based on stated college major and career choice.

A six-member Scholarship Selection Committee is chosen by the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program to evaluate the scholarship applications. This committee may be comprised of Extension agents, Extension specialists and administrators, representatives from business and industry, and adult volunteer 4-H leaders. Children and grandchildren of Extension employees and Texas 4-H Foundation Board members are eligible for scholarships; however, no person serving on the Selection Committee may have a child, or relative among the applicants in the year in which that person judges. The purpose of the Scholarship Selection Committee is to identify, select and award recipients Texas 4-H and Youth Development Program Opportunity Scholarships. This is done through a process designed to be fair to all applicants, with safeguards to reduce opportunity for bias for or against any applicant.

The process begins with the 4-H member submitting a completed application, including an official high school transcript of grades, test scores, and 4-H record of achievement. Each application is carefully reviewed to ensure that it meets minimum criteria within the category submitted. Applicants that fail to meet minimum criteria are eliminated from further consideration.

The applicant’s 4-H experience is subjectively evaluated by the Selection Committee. This process focuses on the applicant’s 4-H projects, 4-H leadership, 4-H citizenship and community service, 4-H honors, non-4-H

leadership and activities, and personal and career narratives. Each section of the “Record of 4-H Experience” is evaluated and scored. After each judge has assigned his/her score, a composite score for the “Record of 4-H Experience” is established for each applicant.

Financial need judging evaluates the “Financial Information” sections of each application. The evaluation of the financial needs is by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and a narrative, detailing applicant’s need for financial assistance. Each applicant is required to submit a copy of their Student Aid Report (SAR). For confidentiality, the “Financial Information” section of the application is submitted in a sealed envelope and labeled with the applicant’s name and “Financial Information.” Information on completing and submitting the FAFSA can be found on-line at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>

After combining the scores from the 4-H experience, academic achievement, test scores and financial need, qualified applicants will be ranked within the category in which the application was submitted. From this ranking, preliminary placings are established based on donor criteria. Scholars selected are invited to interview with the Judging Committee. The interview is required for receipt of an Opportunity Scholarship.

Scores awarded for the interview will be used to complete an applicant’s score, placing and award determination. The final step in the process is assigning and awarding the available scholarships within the award categories. Scholarships vary in dollar value. Applicants will be matched with the best scholarships available based on category selected, designated major/course of study, donor criteria, and composite score. Applicants who are selected to receive a scholarship will be required, by contract, to remain enrolled in the degree major/course of study college/university, unless a change is specifically approved by the donor/sponsor. Scholarships will be awarded during the 2014 Texas 4-H Roundup Scholarship Assembly (attendance is required in order to receive scholarship).

SCORING SYSTEM

As determined by the scholarship judges, scores are assigned based on level of achievement in the scoring categories. The scoring categories and system for the Opportunity Scholarship process are as follows:

Scoring Category	Baccalaureate		Technical		Courageous Heart
	Financial	Non-Financial	Financial	Non-Financial	
4-H Experience & Narratives	35	55	60	80	20
Projects					
Leadership					
Citizenship & Community Service					
Honors					
Outside 4-H Experiences/Leadership					
Grade Point Average	20	20	10	10	0
SAT/ACT Score	15	15	0	0	0
Financial Need	20	0	20	0	20
Courageous Heart Narrative	NA	NA	NA	NA	25
Cour. Heart Letters of Recommendation	NA	NA	NA	NA	15
Interview	10	10	10	10	20
MAXIMUM AWARD POINTS	100	100	100	100	100

APPLICATION FORMATS

The application may be completed using the computer and Microsoft Word. All forms are available from the 4-H website at: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu>. If an applicant does not have access to Microsoft Word the application can be printed and completed using a typewriter.

ORDER OF THE APPLICATION

The completed application, along with required attachments, must be submitted in the order established below. Typed or printer generated applications are required. Each portion of the application should be completed in the space provided. DO NOT add pages to the application. Sections of the Texas 4-H and Youth Development Scholarship

Order of the Application is:

- Section 1: Personal Information
- Section 2: College/University Information
- Section 3: Livestock Show Participation
- Section 4: San Antonio Livestock Exposition – School Tours
- Section 5: Individual Scholastic Record
- Section 6: Financial Information
- Section 7: Project Experience
- Section 8: Leadership Experience
- Section 9: Citizenship/Community Service Experience & Honors
- Section 10: Outside 4-H Experience
- Section 11: Personal Narrative
- Section 12: Career Narrative
- Section 13: Courageous Heart Narrative & Letters of Recommendation
- Section 14: Acknowledgement of Integrity, Participation, & Certification
- Section 15: County Extension Agent Certification

Information for the completion of a Texas 4-H and Youth Development Scholarship can be acquired through past 4-H record books, project forms, or other 4-H records that have been used throughout the applicant's 4-H career.

ELIGIBLE MAJORS/COURSES OF STUDY FOR TECHNICAL CERTIFICATIONS

(Additional Majors/Courses Offered by Approved Colleges May Be Considered)

MAJOR/COURSE OF STUDY

- Accounting Associate
- Aircraft Pilot Training Technology
- Applied Graphic Design Technology
- Aquaculture Technology
- Auctioneering Services
- Automotive Body/Collision Technology
- Automotive Technology
- Aviation Maintenance Technology
- Aviation Technology
- Biomedical Equipment Technology
- Biotechnology
- Business/Office Administration
- Caption Reporting Proficiency Certificate
- Carpentry
- Chemical Laboratory Technology
- Child Development/Early Childhood
- Commercial Art & Advertising
- Computer Aided Design & Drafting
- Computer Information Systems
- Computer Maintenance Technology
- Computer Network Administration/Technology
- Computer Science Technology
- Construction Management & Technology
- Court/Realtime Reporting
- Criminal Justice
- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygiene
- Diagnostic Medical Sonography
- Diesel & Heavy Equipment Technology
- Dietary Management
- Digital Imaging Technology
- Digital Media Design
- Drafting & Design Technology
- Echocardiology Technology
- E-Commerce Technology
- Educational Assistant
- Electrical Technology
- Electronics Engineering Technology
- Electronics Systems Technology
- Emergency Medical Services
- Environmental Health & Safety Technology
- Farrier Technology
- Fire Science/Fire Protection Technology
- Food Service/Culinary Arts
- GIS/GPS Technology
- Golf Course & Landscape Management
- Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Tech.
- Histology Technology
- Horticulture Technology

- Hotel/Restaurant Management
- Industrial Maintenance & Engineering Tech.
- Information Management/Technology
- Instrument & Control Technology
- Interpretation Preparation Program/Deaf
- Invasive Cardiovascular Technology
- Logistics Technology
- Machining Technology
- Marketing Meat Technology
- Mechanical Engineering Technology
- Media Communications & Information Tech.
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Data Specialist
- Medical Laboratory Technology
- Mental Health Associate
- Mortuary Science
- Music - Commercial
- Nuclear Medicine
- Nursing - Associate Degree
- Nursing - Vocational
- Occupational Therapy Assistant
- Paralegal/Legal Assistant
- Pharmacy Technology
- Phlebotomy
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Plastics Technology
- Process Technology
- Radiation Therapy
- Radiography
- Radio-Television
- Ranch & Feedlot Operations
- Real Estate
- Respiratory Care
- Semiconductor Manufacturing
- Surgical Technology
- Telecommunications Technology
- Travel, Exposition & Meeting Management
- Veterinary Technology
- Video Technology
- Welding Technology
- Wind Energy Technology

ACCEPTABLE SALE MAJORS *(revised 9/2013)*

- Accounting
- Agricultural Business
- Agricultural Communications
- Agricultural Development
- Agricultural Economics
- Agricultural Education
- Agricultural Engineering/Mechanized Agriculture
- Agricultural Journalism
- Agriculture Research
- Agriculture Science
- Agricultural System Management
- Agriculture & Applied Economics
- Agriculture & Life Sciences
- Agriculture Related Computer Software Design
- Agronomy
- Allied Health
- Animal Science
- Aquaculture
- Atmospheric Science
- Banking & Finance
- Biochemistry
- Bioengineering
- Bioenvironmental Sciences
- Biological Systems Engineering
- Biology
- Biomedical Engineering
- Biomedical Sciences
- Biotechnology
- Botany
- Cell & Molecular Biology
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Clothing, Textiles & Merchandising
- Computer Science

Dairy Science
Earth Sciences
Equine Sciences
Engineering
Entomology
Environmental Conservation of Natural Resources
Environmental & Property Law
Family & Consumer Sciences
Farm Office Management/Bookkeeping
Fisheries/Fishery Science
Floriculture
Food & Nutrition
Food Engineering
Food Science & Technology
Forestry & Forestry Science
Genetics
Home Economics Education
Horticulture
Integrated Pest Management
Interdisciplinary Agriculture
International Agriculture Commerce
Land Use & Planning
Landscape Architecture
Mari-Culture
Marine Biology

Marine Engineering
Marine Engineering Technology
Marine Fisheries
Marine Sciences
Marketing
Meteorology
Microbiology
Nursing
Nutrition/Scientific Nutrition
Pharmacy/Pharmacology
Plant & Environmental Soil Science
Plant Science
Poultry Science
Production Agriculture
Rangeland Ecology & Management
Recreation & Parks
Restaurant, Hotel & Institutional Management
Soil Science
Statistics
Textile & Apparel
Veterinary Science/Pre-Veterinary Medicine
Waste Management
Wholesale/Retail Distribution
Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences
Zoology