



## **Bryan Culberson Endowment Fund Information and Guidelines**

### **History**

Bryan Culberson was the patrol leader of the Fires Snakes Patrol of Boy Scouts of America Troop 400 at Aldersgate United Methodist Church in Durham, NC, when he died of complications from an accident at the age of 12 on April 29, 2002. Bryan had earned the rank of Tenderfoot and was posthumously presented with the Spirit of the Eagle Award by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Known among his fellow Scouts for his generosity, Bryan had asked his family to fulfill a special wish. As a young boy, he had the foresight to tell his mother to make sure his organs would go to help someone else if anything ever happened to him. Upon his death, his family made sure that both of his kidneys were transplanted and his heart valves given to two other children.

Bryan's family then established the Bryan Culberson Endowment Fund and asked that memorial contributions go to benefit Troop 400 Boy Scouts. They believe that Bryan would want to honor Troop 400 Eagle Scouts for their accomplishments and foster the values of community service and duty to God, self and country. An outpouring of generous memorials from the community and matching gifts from GlaxoSmithKline provided the initial funding for the endowment.

As long as funds are available, the endowment will provide a primary award of \$2,000 each year to a deserving Eagle Scout from Troop 400 to help them reach their educational and career goals. And, at the committee's discretion, two additional awards up to \$500 each may also be provided. Awards are granted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, disability or national origin.

Administrative support for the Bryan Culberson Endowment Fund is provided by the Bryan Culberson Endowment Fund Committee (BCEFC), a standing sub-committee of Troop 400. The BCEFC meets quarterly to ensure that foundation goals and objectives are met in a timely manner. Daily operations are administered by its chairperson.

### **Program Goals**

- ◆ To help high school graduates achieve their goal of continuing their education by providing scholarships for college, post-secondary vocational/technical school, or military training.
- ◆ To provide one scholarship of \$2,000 each year and – at the committee's discretion – two additional awards up to \$500 each to a Troop 400 Eagle Scout as long as funds are available in the Bryan Culberson Endowment Fund.
- ◆ To promote the development of better citizens.

### **Scholarship Awards**

Any Troop 400 Eagle Scout applying for these funds must provide a statement clearly identifying how he plans to spend the financial award. The statement must be signed by the applicant and countersigned by one of the applicant's parents or legal guardians. Suggested uses for the funds may be school supplies, computer equipment, or books.

## Eligibility Criteria

Only currently registered members of Boy Scout Troop 400, Durham, NC, may apply. They must:

- ◆ Be a high school graduate (or equivalent) expecting to enter military service or attend an accredited college, university, trade, or vocational school in the year in which the scholarship application is awarded. Note: An Eagle Scout expecting to graduate from high school in the awarding year may apply; however, graduation will be required in order for the candidate to be awarded the scholarship.
- ◆ Have been granted the Eagle Scout rank or can show verification that the BSA national office has received their application for the Eagle Scout rank by May 31 of the awarding year.
- ◆ Live by the Scout Oath and Law.
- ◆ Show and help develop Scout spirit.
- ◆ Demonstrate participation in community service and/or co-curricular activities.
- ◆ Provide signed letters of recommendation from an adult (other than their parent or guardian) who is involved in Scouting and from an adult who can attest to the Scout's involvement in another community organization outside of Scouting.
- ◆ Be accepted into an accredited college, university, vocational/technical school, or military service; and attend no later than fall of the year in which the scholarship is awarded.

## Applications

Scholarship applications may be obtained from the troop committee chairperson or any member of the endowment fund committee. They may also be downloaded from the internet at [www.bryanculberson.org](http://www.bryanculberson.org) or may be requested via e-mail at [info@bryanculberson.org](mailto:info@bryanculberson.org).

Troop 400 Eagle Scouts applying for a scholarship must complete the entire application themselves. Applicants are responsible for completing all necessary information, getting required signatures, and submitting all required information on or before the stated deadline.

Include on each attachment the applicant's name, and submit all attachments with the application form to ensure that all items are available for review at the same time.

Applications must be postmarked between March 1 and April 30 and received by the selection committee no later than May 5. Sufficient postage should be used and the application should be mailed to: Bryan Culberson Endowment Fund Committee, Boy Scouts of America Troop 400, 1320 Umstead Road, Durham, NC 27712.

Applications become the property of the selection committee and will not be returned to the applicant. The selection committee will inform all applicants of its decision, in writing, prior to the Court of Honor in May.

## Awards Selection

Bryan Culberson Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of Scout spirit and experience, work experience, co-curricular and/or community service involvement, statement of educational, life, and career goals, and letters of recommendation.

An Eagle Scout may receive the primary award only once. Applicants who are not selected for the primary award may re-apply during following years as long as they meet the eligibility requirements. Selection of the recipient will be made by the scholarship selection committee with input from the BCEFC. Presentation of the awards will be made during the Troop's annual Spring Court of Honor. All applicants are encouraged to attend.

## **General Selection Criteria Guidelines**

In the Scouting experience, candidates have been called upon to provide service and leadership to many people. Eagle Scouts by definition are leaders. A core value of Scouting is service, and the ethic of the good turn defines that service to others is a daily commitment. The selection committee will look for tangible examples of how the candidate has exemplified that part of the Scout Oath that states “On my honor, I will do my best ... to help other people at all times” and how the candidate plans to continue to provide service and leadership to others in the future.

In achieving the Eagle Scout award, candidates have exhibited an intellectual curiosity that has spanned many subject areas. The earning of merit badges has demonstrated a willingness to explore topics and perform activities beyond immediate interest and a personal motivation to go beyond minimum expectations. The selection committee will look for examples of how the candidate has demonstrated these qualities and how the candidate plans to continue demonstrating these qualities as they go forward in life.

Scout spirit is best defined by the words of the Scout Oath and Law. Scout spirit will be measured by the candidate’s willingness to live and practice the values expressed in the Scout Oath and Law and carry Scouting ideals into his future academics, personal life and career.

## **Payment of Awards**

Scholarship payments are authorized and processed by the BCEFC. Payments will be made in one installment no later than August 1. The check will be mailed to the recipient’s home address and will be made payable jointly to the Eagle Scout and his parent or legal guardian.

## **Obligations**

A Bryan Culberson scholarship recipient must be enrolled in his educational program or military service no later than fall of the year in which scholarship is awarded. The recipient agrees to have appropriate information and photographs publicized as part of Bryan Culberson Endowment Fund promotions or publicity activities and is obligated to respond to requested information and photographs. Although there are no further obligations to BCEFC, scholarship recipients are encouraged to express gratitude to Troop 400 and the Bryan Culberson family who raised the scholarship funds.

## **Revision Policy**

The general conditions and procedures under which scholarship are made are subject to periodic review by the BCEFC, including termination of the program.

For more information, contact:

Bryan Culberson Endowment Fund Committee

Boy Scouts of America Troop 400

1320 Umstead Road, Durham, NC 27712

Web Site: [www.bryanculberson.org](http://www.bryanculberson.org); E-Mail: [info@bryanculberson.org](mailto:info@bryanculberson.org)