

NEOCA

National Educational Opportunity Centers Association

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Charleston, S.C.

February 8, 2018

To: National Educational Opportunity Centers Association

From: NEOCA Scholarship Committee

Re: NEOCA Annual Scholarship Competition

The National Educational Opportunity Centers Association announces its 2018 scholarship competition. NEOCA will award two scholarships to help cover recipients' educational expenses during the 2017-18 or 2018-19 academic years. Two scholarships will be awarded, \$1000 each.

General Information:

Only applicants whose sponsoring EOC TRIO program has a current NEOCA institutional membership will be considered.

1. HS Equivalency Diploma to Postsecondary Enrollment Scholarship

EOC participants seeking a high school equivalency diploma during the 2017-18 program year can compete for a one-time award of \$1000 if they have successfully completed a high school equivalency diploma and will enroll in college during the 2017-18 or 2018-19 academic year.

2. Postsecondary Enrollment Scholarship

EOC participants seeking postsecondary enrollment during the 2017-18 or 2018-19 program year can compete for a one-time award of \$1000.

- Nominations are limited to one per award per NEOCA Institutional Membership.
- Nominations must be sent electronically by email to the Scholarship Committee by the program director or staff member by March 23, 2018. A \$1,000 check will be sent to the financial aid office of the college attended by the winners.

Applications will be evaluated according to the criteria outlined below.

The official announcement of the winners will be made at the NEOCA conference to be held in September 2018. Nominating EOC programs will be notified by May 1, 2018.

Should you have any questions or need additional information feel free to contact the NEOCA Scholarship Committee.

TRIO
E D U C A T I O N A L
O P P O R T U N I T Y C E N T E R S

NEOCA Scholarship Activities List Information Form

What to Submit:

1. Scholarship Application Form accompanying this memorandum.
2. Applicant Essay: Explain how EOC has assisted you in your education journey. Include information about your community involvement and extracurricular activities. Attach any related documentation.
3. The Activities List Information Form (use more than one page if necessary).
4. College transcript or HS equivalency diploma verification and enrollment verification, if available.
5. Letters of recommendation as indicated in the accompanying general and specific program qualifications.

Please email of the above materials to: Dr. Nancy Nelson, NEOCA Scholarship Committee Chair (nancy.nelson@indianhills.edu). Incomplete applications will not be considered

Evaluative Criteria:

Academic performance/Evidence of Personal or Academic Growth	Up to 25 points
Applicant's Essay: based on content, organization, creativity and grammar	Up to 35 points
Recommendation Letter from EOC Program	Up to 15 points
Professional Letter of Reference	Up to 10 points
Community Involvement/Leadership/Volunteer Service/Extra-Curricular Activities	Up to 15 points
Total possible points	100

Scholarship Qualifications

General Qualifications

All Scholarship Applicants Must:

1. Be currently enrolled in Educational Opportunity Center Program with a current NEOCA institutional membership and:
 - a. Have successfully completed and received a HS Equivalency Diploma during the 2017-18 academic year.
- Or**
- b. Will enroll in a college program of study in the upcoming academic year.
2. Submit high school/college transcripts or HS Equivalency Diploma verification.
 3. Submit a typed personal essay 250-300 words, as outlined in the Scholarship Application.
 4. Submit a letter of recommendation from the sponsoring TRIO program **on official letterhead** which highlights academic growth and potential, personal qualities, and overall accomplishments.
 5. Submit a letter of recommendation from a community or professional affiliate (employer, clergy, social worker, etc.).
 6. In addition to current transcripts (if applicable), submit transcripts from any previously attended institutions.

National Educational Opportunity Centers Association Scholarship Application

Deadline: March 23, 2018

I am applying for:

- High School Equivalency to Postsecondary Enrollment
 Postsecondary Enrollment

Please attach all supporting documents:

- Scholarship Application Form
- Applicant Essay
- High school or college transcript or GED verification
- Letters of recommendation as indicated in the general qualifications

RECOMMENDING EOC PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Program Name:			
Contact Person:			
Phone:		E-mail Address:	
Street Address:			
City/State/Zip			

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name:			
Gender	M <input type="checkbox"/>	F <input type="checkbox"/>	
Phone:		E-mail Address:	
College Name:			
Campus Address:			
City/State/Zip			
Personal Address:			
City/State/Zip			

Most recent work experience:

Employer Name:		Dates Employed:	
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Applicant Signature* _____ **Date** _____

*I understand that my application essay may be used in future TRIO-related activities or publications. If chosen to receive a scholarship, I understand that I will be asked to provide a SSN or Student ID #.

EOC Program Director Name: _____

***Program Director Signature** _____ **Date** _____

*By my signature, I certify that the student making application for this scholarship is a participant in the project which I direct and that he or she is otherwise eligible to compete for this award.

NEOCA Scholarship Scoring Rubric

ITEM	DETAILED POINT VALUES	Possible Points															
<p>ESSAY</p> <p><i>Essay must be between 250-300 words (maximum)</i></p> <p><i>Please note: this is a major category, have students review their essay in key areas listed and write based on criteria required</i></p>	<p>Essay should include information about the participant's educational goals and any barriers they have experienced in pursuing those goals. Additionally, participants should write about how they see their current and future role in their community. The essay is rated as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content • Communications Skills (grammar, organization, creativity, punctuation, and spelling) <p style="text-align: right;">Total Possible Points – Essay =</p>	<p>Points:</p> <p>1 – 25</p> <p>1 - 10</p> <p>-----</p> <p>35</p>															
<p>ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE / HONORS AND AWARDS/ EVIDENCE OF ACADEMIC GROWTH</p>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>GPA (4.0) Scale</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>HiSet</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>GED (Average Score)</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3.80 to 4.00</td> <td style="text-align: center;">91-100</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Above 57</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3.50 to 3.79</td> <td style="text-align: center;">81-90</td> <td style="text-align: center;">56 to 57</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">3.00 to 3.49</td> <td style="text-align: center;">71-80</td> <td style="text-align: center;">54 to 55</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">2.00 to 2.99</td> <td style="text-align: center;">60-70</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50 to 53</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Academic Honors and Awards</p> <p>Academic growth detailed in applicant essay, EOC letter of reference or professional letter of reference.</p> <p>(If transcript not available, self-reported academic performance will be used to determine points.)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total Possible Points – Academic Performance/Honors/Growth =</p>	<u>GPA (4.0) Scale</u>	<u>HiSet</u>	<u>GED (Average Score)</u>	3.80 to 4.00	91-100	Above 57	3.50 to 3.79	81-90	56 to 57	3.00 to 3.49	71-80	54 to 55	2.00 to 2.99	60-70	50 to 53	<p>Points:</p> <p>10</p> <p>8</p> <p>6</p> <p>4</p> <p>1 - 5</p> <p>1 – 10</p> <p>(1-10)</p> <p>-----</p> <p>25</p>
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3.80 to 4.00	91-100	Above 57															
3.50 to 3.79	81-90	56 to 57															
3.00 to 3.49	71-80	54 to 55															
2.00 to 2.99	60-70	50 to 53															
<p>TRIO Staff Recommendation Letter</p>	<p>The extent to which the following mentions are discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Growth and Potential • Personal Qualities • Overall Accomplishment <p style="text-align: right;">Total Possible Points – TRIO recommendation</p>	<p>Points:</p> <p>0-5 points</p> <p>0-5 points</p> <p>0-5 points</p> <p>-----</p> <p>15</p>															
<p>Professional Letter of Reference</p>	<p>As long as a professional reference letter is provided then all points will be awarded. Without a professional letter of reference zero points will be awarded.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Total Possible Points – Professional Letter of Reference</p>	<p>Points:</p> <p>10</p>															

ITEM	DETAILED POINT VALUES	
<p style="text-align: center;">Community Involvement/Leadership/ Volunteer Service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Leadership role • Community Committee Member • Academic Honors or Awards • Community Volunteer Service • Extra-curricular Activities <p style="text-align: center;">Total Possible Points – Community Involvement, Leadership, Volunteer, etc.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Points:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">0-3 points</p> <p style="text-align: center;">0-3 points</p> <p style="text-align: center;">0-3 points</p> <p style="text-align: center;">0-3 points</p> <p style="text-align: center;">0-3 points</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p style="text-align: center;">15</p>

NEOCA Scholarship Activities List Information Form

Please attached additional pages if needed.

Type of Activity If "Other" is checked, please enter a name for your activity	Dates you participated	Description Provide a short paragraph about your involvement in this activity
<input type="checkbox"/> Club <input type="checkbox"/> Sports <input type="checkbox"/> Arts <input type="checkbox"/> Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Internship <input type="checkbox"/> Job <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	From: / / To: / /	
<input type="checkbox"/> Club <input type="checkbox"/> Sports <input type="checkbox"/> Arts <input type="checkbox"/> Technology <input type="checkbox"/> Internship <input type="checkbox"/> Job <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	From: / / To: / /	
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