



RGV LEAD ANNOUNCES THE 19TH ANNUAL RGV LEAD SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

Competition Open to 2017-2018 High School Seniors for 2018-2019 Academic Year

RGV LEAD Scholarship Available: \$5,000 for any college or university

Important Information

1. An electronic copy of this scholarship packet is available upon request. To obtain a copy, call RGV LEAD at 956.364.4509 or email lperez1.rgvlead@gmail.com.
2. Please read all instructions carefully.
3. Please submit all parts of the scholarship application:
 - Scholarship Application Cover Page (use the form enclosed in this package).
 - Two separate letters of reference (use the forms enclosed in this package)
 - One letter from school personnel
 - One letter from a personal reference (church leader, employer, family friend, Scout leader, etc.--not a family member or school personnel)
 - College and Career Essay (use the form enclosed in this package)
 - Copy of High School Transcript reflecting a college-and-career-preparatory program of study that includes one or more career and technical education courses for college credit (articulated credit or dual credit)
4. Applications must be mailed or delivered to this address:

RGV LEAD
Attention: Marketing and Awards Committee
TSTC Service Support Center, Suite 110
1902 North Loop 499
Harlingen, Texas 78550-3697

5. Scholarship applications must be **RECEIVED or POSTMARKED by**

Wednesday, February 7, 2018, at 4 p.m.

6. The following scholarship application packets will **NOT** be accepted: (a) late applications; (b) partial applications; (c) applications that are not typed, and (d) faxed applications.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

1. **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:** Eligible applicants are high school students who graduate as RGV LEAD Scholars after the fall semester 2017 or at the end of the spring semester 2018. **Applications for students who do not meet the selection criteria will not be considered.**

Continuation funding for all scholarships is contingent on compliance with performance requirements explained in written communications provided by RGV LEAD. Any questions regarding requirements should be directed to RGV LEAD, and responses will be provided by a representative of RGV LEAD. The decision of RGV LEAD's Director is final.

2. **SUBMITTING A SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKET:**
Applications must be RECEIVED or POSTMARKED by **Wednesday, February 7, 2018**, no later than **4:00 p.m.** and delivered or mailed to the location specified below:

RGV LEAD

Attention: Marketing and Awards Committee

TSTC Support Services Building, Suite 110

1902 North Loop 499

Harlingen, Texas 78550-3697

(Click on the link for "map" at this address")

<http://www.tstc.edu/campuses/harlingen>

Applicants are strongly encouraged to have a counselor or a teacher review their applications prior to submitting them.

3. Packet must be complete and in order, as follows:
 - Scholarship Application Cover Page (use the form enclosed in this package).
 - Two separate letters of reference (use the forms enclosed in this package)
 - One letter from school personnel
 - One letter from a personal reference (church leader, employer, family friend, Scout leader, etc.--not a family member or school personnel)
 - College and Career Essay (form use the enclosed in this package)
 - Copy of High School Transcript reflecting a college-and-career-preparatory program of study that includes one or more career and technical education courses completed for college credit (articulated credit or dual credit)

RECOGNITION CEREMONY:

The scholarship recipient may be invited to participate in an awards ceremony sponsored by the RGV LEAD Board. In addition, the recipient may also be honored during a ceremony at his/her high school.

CRITERIA THAT MUST BE MET

- The applicant must be high school student who graduated as an RGV LEAD Scholar after the fall 2017 semester or at the end of the spring 2018 semester.
- The applicant must have graduated from, or be preparing to graduate from, the high school portion of a college-and-career-preparatory program of study that includes one or more career and technical education courses for college credit (articulated credit or dual credit).
- The applicant should have participated in a work-based learning experience; for example:
 - an industry speaker's presentation to the student's class (as in a career day)
 - a career fair (for example, the Education & Career EXPO)
 - a field trip to an employer's place of business or a Careers in Industries presentation
 - job-shadowing
 - mentoring (e.g., RGV Mentors)
 - an internship or apprenticeship
 - a job, co-op class, etc.

REQUIREMENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER ESSAYS

1. The applicant must submit an essay that answers these questions:
 - A. In one paragraph tell us about yourself.
 - B. What was your career goal when you entered high school? Do you have the same career goal today? Where do you see yourself in the workforce ten years from now?
 - C. Are you planning to enroll in a college program of study that corresponds to the college-and-career-focused program of study in which you were enrolled at the time you graduated from high school? Why or why not?
 - D. Describe one work-related experience (see list above) you had in high school. Explain how this experience helped you become the person you are today.
 - E. Name the college or university you have chosen and explain why you want to attend school there.
2. The essay **MUST** be typed.
3. The essay must be no more than **two double-spaced** pages in length using 12-point font.

RGV LEAD SCHOLARSHIP: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation (Submit TWO Recommendations—One School and One Personal
(NOTE: Personal Recommendation should be from someone who is not employed at the school. Also, personal recommendation may not be from a family member, but should be from someone who has personal experience with the applicant, such as a supervisor at a job or a place where student has been a volunteer, a church leader, a Scout leader, etc.))

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT:

Name of Applicant: _____

Type of Recommendation (check only one): School Personal

TO BE COMPLETED BY INDIVIDUAL GIVING RECOMMENDATION: Please do these things:

1. Fill in the information about yourself.
2. Place a checkmark in one box for the level of each quality you believe best represents the applicant.
3. Answer the question below the table.
4. Verify your answers by signing at the bottom of the form.

Name of Recommender (please print): _____

Title (If Applicable): _____

Address: _____ City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail (If Applicable): _____

How You Know the Applicant: _____

	Exceptional	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Information
Intellectual Ability					
Leadership Ability					
Academic Preparation					
Interpersonal Skills					
Willingness to Learn					
Maturity					
Initiative					
Responsibility					
Dependability					
Attention to Detail					
Honesty and Integrity					
Motivation					

Why do you believe this student is a good candidate for a RGV LEAD Scholarship? (Attach additional page if necessary) _____

DATE: _____

Signature of Recommender: _____

RGV LEAD SCHOLARSHIP: LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation (Submit TWO Recommendations—One School and One Personal
(NOTE: Personal Recommendation should be from someone who is not employed at the school. Also, personal recommendation may not be from a family member, but should be from someone who has personal experience with the applicant, such as a supervisor at a job or a place where student has been a volunteer, a church leader, a Scout leader, etc.))

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT:

Name of Applicant: _____

Type of Recommendation (check only one): School Personal

TO BE COMPLETED BY INDIVIDUAL GIVING RECOMMENDATION: Please do these things:

1. Fill in the information about yourself.
2. Place a check mark in one box for the level of each quality you believe best represents the applicant.
3. Answer the question below the table
4. Verify your answers by signing at the bottom of the form.

Name of Recommender (please print): _____

Title (If Applicable): _____

Address: _____ City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail (If Applicable): _____

How You Know the Applicant: _____

	Exceptional	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Information
Intellectual Ability					
Leadership Ability					
Academic Preparation					
Interpersonal Skills					
Willingness to Learn					
Maturity					
Initiative					
Responsibility					
Dependability					
Attention to Detail					
Honesty and Integrity					
Motivation					

Why do you believe this student is a good candidate for a RGV LEAD Scholarship? (Attach additional page if necessary) _____

DATE: _____

Signature of Recommender: _____

RGV LEAD SCHOLARSHIP: COLLEGE AND CAREER ESSAY

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTENT OF ESSAYS

The Applicant's essay should answer these questions:

- A. What was your career goal when you entered high school? Do you have the same career goal today? Where do you see yourself in the workforce ten years from now?
- B. Are you planning to enroll in a college or university program related to the high school major (field of study) in which you were enrolled at the time you graduated from high school? Why or why not?
- C. Have you earned any industry certifications? If "yes," what certifications did you earn?
- D. Describe one work-related experience (see instructions) you had in high school. Explain how this experience helped you become the person you are today.
- E. Name the college or university you have chosen and explain why you want to go to school there.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORMAT OF ESSAYS

1. The essay **MUST** be typed.
2. Essays may be a maximum of two doubled-spaced pages in length, using 12-point font.
3. The applicant should complete this form and use it as a cover page for the essay.

Name of Applicant: _____

First	Middle	Last
Mailing Address: _____		
Street	City	State ZIP

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Name and Phone Number of Another Individual Who Knows How to Contact the Applicant:

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail _____

Name of School District and High School: _____

ATTACH ESSAY TO THIS PAGE.