



## **Allen Family Opportunity Scholarship Application**

*Serving students from Enid High School, Chisholm High School, Pioneer High School & Oklahoma Bible Academy*

This scholarship, established by the Allen Family Charitable Foundation and managed by the Cherokee Strip Community Foundation (CSCF), is for Enid-area seniors who will be attending a two-year community college or four-year university as a full-time student. The Foundation's selection committee will choose six students to receive a \$40,000 scholarship paid out annually for up to four years. Payments will be distributed to the bursar of the higher education institution to be used for tuition, fees, housing, food, books and other essential needs, upon written verification that the student is enrolled.

The Allen Family Charitable Foundation established this scholarship to assist Enid-area seniors achieve their dream of earning a college degree, especially those who would be the first generation in their family to do so. It is the hope of the Foundation that this program will not only expand opportunities for the scholarship recipients to reach their personal and professional goals, but that it will also make a difference for future generations and for the community as a whole.

Founded in 2006 by Joan and Paul Allen, Jennifer and Mark Allen, and Elizabeth and Greg Allen, the mission of the Allen Family Charitable Foundation is to support organizations that have a proven record of success in education, rehabilitation or development to help individuals transform their lives and contribute to the larger society.

Each spring, the Foundation will host a banquet for the year's recipients and their families to celebrate their accomplishments. Past recipients also will be encouraged to share their success in order to inspire current students to apply for the scholarship and pursue a college education.

The scholarship will be administered in accordance with all guidelines and policies established by the Cherokee Strip Community Foundation's Board.

Applications are due in the counselor's office of each school by **February 14, 2025**.

## SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

Students from first-generation college families who demonstrate financial need and meet other application guidelines.

## OTHER APPLICATION GUIDELINES

- Must be graduating from one of the following high schools: Enid, Chisholm, Pioneer or OBA.
- Preference is given to those with at least a cumulative 3.0 GPA in high school.
- Recipient must maintain at least a cumulative 2.5 GPA at college.
- Recipient must continuously be enrolled as a full-time college student.
- Recipients must exhibit good character and citizenship in high school and college.
- Recipient must exhibit healthy lifestyle choices throughout high school and college, including avoiding the abuse of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco.

## DEFINITIONS & DETERMINATIONS

**First-generation college student** is defined as a student whose parents and grandparents did not complete more than 32 hours of credit at a two-year college or four-year university.

**Financial need** will be determined using information about the family's financial situation, as provided on this application form and through the FAFSA Student Aid Report (SAR).

**High School GPA** will be determined using a cumulative, seven-semester transcript.

**College GPA** will be monitored after the student's first full year and each succeeding year.

## DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

- Completed scholarship application
- Copy of high school transcript (including grades for the fall semester of senior year)
- One recommendation letter from a teacher at your high school, and
- One recommendation letter from someone who is not a family member, preferably from a work or volunteer supervisor.

## REQUIRED ESSAY

- Attach a short essay (not to exceed 600 words) that answers the following questions: *What are your goals for the future, and how will college help you achieve them?* Please include information about your personal history and life experiences. This is an opportunity to tell your story and to explain why you are an ideal candidate for this scholarship.

Name:

High School:

Address:

Phone Number:

GPA:

Class Rank:

Parents' Names:

Mother's Occupation:

Father's Occupation:

Did either of your parents earn more than 32 hours of college credit? :  Y  N

Please explain the highest level of education achieved by your parents:

Did any of your grandparents earn more than 32 hours of college credit?  Y  N

Please explain the highest level of education achieved by your grandparents:

Number of Siblings and Ages:

Number of Siblings Currently in College:

Annual Household Gross Income:

Annual Amount Your Family Can Contribute to College Expenses: *(Please include college savings and/or funding from your family's annual income that will be contributed.)*

Do you qualify for free- or reduced-meals, Oklahoma's Promise, or other tribal/government subsidies?

Y  N

If yes, please provide information:

Please describe the circumstances of your financial need:

Please list any school activities you have been involved in during your time in High School, including offices held and awards received:

Please list any community activities you have been involved in during your time in High School:

*With my signature, I verify that the information provided in this application is accurate and truthful. Additionally, I understand that I must fulfill the obligations outlined in this application, if I receive the scholarship. This includes providing a copy of the following to the Cherokee Strip Community Foundation at the end of each year: (1) my college transcripts to verify I have achieved at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA and (2) a copy of my schedule to verify full-time enrollment for the upcoming semester. I also understand that I must conduct myself in a way that exhibits good character and citizenship as long as I am receiving scholarship funds. Failure to do so could jeopardize my opportunity to continue to receive the scholarship. I understand this includes, but is not limited to, any proven drug use or any proven alcohol abuse. The Allen Family Foundation will not directly or indirectly subsidize either of these activities and wishes to help young people abstain from them for their lifetime, influencing future generations of their family to do the same.*

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date:

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: