

DESTIN WATER USERS SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

The Destin Water Users, Inc. of Destin, Florida, as part of its continuing commitment to higher education efforts to ensure that the community and the County of Okaloosa will continue to enjoy the benefits of an educated citizenry, has established a scholarship fund to provide an educational resource for eligible students to draw upon while pursuing a scholastic discipline which will lead to an undergraduate collegiate degree. (While not of paramount importance, a major in a program in the fields of ecology, environmental protection, water management and related scientific and engineering endeavors will be given added weight in any evaluation).

Eligible candidates are Destin students who will be graduating seniors of any high school in any given year and **who are resident in the area serviced by Destin Water Users.**

One Thousand Five Hundred Dollar (\$1500) award will be made to a graduating high school senior meeting all qualified conditions. A grantee will again be awarded a similar sum for a second year of study upon successful completion of the first academic year.

Further, should a grantee pursue a scholastic program leading to a degree as above described, an award of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2000) may be made for each of the remaining two academic years.

Any award is discretionary and based entirely on the evaluation and judgment of the Destin Water Users, Inc. Board of Directors.

POLICY

A. This scholarship is based on academic achievement, personal character, leadership, financial need and to a lesser extent, interest in environmental or other related fields. The applicants must be seniors of an accredited high school at the time of application and be resident within the Destin Water Users service area.

B. Winners shall not receive the actual scholarship until enrolled at an accredited college or junior college. The Destin Water Users representative, upon notification by the winner, will mail the scholarship award check directly to the school of choice. The representative will instruct the school registrar to administer scholarship monies.

POLICY (continued)

C. Students will be selected with no limitation to race, color, creed, sex or national origin.

D. Should the recipient transfer to another school before using all available funds, remaining funds may be transferred by the registrar to the new school of the student's choice. Destin Water Users should be notified by the registrar and the student. Should the recipient cease to attend classes at the school of choice and not transfer to another school, any money remaining in this fund shall be returned to Destin Water Users.

E. The scholarship may not be used for home study programs, and can be used only for tuition, study materials, school fees and by special authorization of the scholarship committee for room and board.

F. The scholarship may not be used in conjunction with a full scholarship such as ROTC, etc.

G. A scholarship recipient planning a delayed school enrollment should notify Destin Water Users. The scholarship money will be held in the student's name for one year. The student must begin using the scholarship before 1 October of the calendar year following the award. On 1 October, scholarship funds which have not been deposited with the student's school of choice will revert to the Destin Water Users scholarship fund.

H. The scholarship recipient shall submit school transcripts every renewal period showing a minimum 2.50 grade point average.

PROCEDURE

A. A fixed monetary grant will be issued in the name of the student to the college of his/her choice for the student or students selected by an unbiased Scholarship Committee appointed by the Destin Water Users President and approved by the Board of Directors. These grants will normally be issued in the August-September time frame. All applications will be evaluated by the Scholarship Committee, which shall be composed of board members, all of whom are members of Destin Water Users.

B. The Guidance Office(s) of each applicable high school, will be furnished a packet containing the program guidelines and requirements. All necessary forms should be completed and returned to Destin Water Users by March 15th of any given year.

PROCEDURE (continued)

C. These forms will be used by the Scholarship Committee to rank order all applicants during the evaluation process. The Scholarship Committee will use the following criteria to numerically rank the applicants:

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Possible Points</u>
Academic Achievement	1-5
Educational objective including any interest in environmental sciences or other related fields (200 word essay)	1-3
Class Ranking	1-3
Extracurricular Activities	1-3
Leadership Abilities	1-3
Other Noteworthy Achievements	1-3
Financial Need	1-3
Special Financial Need	1-3

The Scholarship Committee will provide the rank list of applicants to the Destin Water Users President by 15 April. The scholarship recipient will be notified after the Board of Directors Meeting held in April, presently the third Tuesday of the month. A formal presentation ceremony for the presentation of the scholarships to the winner(s) may be scheduled for the Board of Directors Meeting held in May.

INFORMATION PACKETS

Information packets will be mailed or distributed by Destin Water Users to applicable high school counselors in January to announce the scholarship program and provide a means of collecting data on student applicants. The packets will include a Scholarship Information Sheet (Attachment 1), an Application Guide (Attachment 2), a supply of Applicant Data Forms (Attachment 3), a supply of Counselor’s Student Data Information Forms (Attachment 4), a Transcript Release Form (Attachment 5), and a Financial Need Sheet (Attachment 6).

FINANCIAL NEED

Special consideration will be given to special financial need applicants. Financial need is defined to exist when the parent/guardian's previous year Income Tax 1040 or 1040A gross income is below \$30,000.00. The consideration will be additional points as shown in the evaluation criteria in the Procedure Section of the Scholarship Program basic information pages.

Attachments: (6)

- 1. Scholarship Information Sheet**
- 2. Application Guide**
- 3. Applicant Data Forms**
- 4. Counselor's Student Data Information Forms**
- 5. Transcript Release Form**
- 6. Financial Need Sheet**

Attachment #1

DESTIN WATER USERS, INC.

**SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
P.O. BOX 308
DESTIN, FLORIDA 32540-308**

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

This scholarship is based on interest in pursuing a collegiate degree, scholastic achievement, personal character, leadership, aptitude and financial need.

Scholarship money may be used for any expenditure payable through the Registrar's Office, including tuition, fees, books and by special authorization of the scholarship committee for room and board. Completed applications must be filed with Destin Water Users on or before specified date of any given year.

Announcements of the winner(s) will be made at the April Board of Directors meeting of DWU (presently the third Tuesday of the month). The scholarship award will be presented before the college fall term begins. In the event the student drops out of school or does not begin using the scholarship money by 1 October the year after the scholarship award, Destin Water Users reserves the right to withdraw unused scholarship money.

Attachment #2

**DESTIN WATER USERS, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

APPLICATION GUIDE

ELIGIBILITY:

Applicants Must:

1. Be a senior at an accredited high school and be a resident of the Destin Water Users service area at the time of application.
2. Be recommended by the school.
3. Have made application to a college or university for higher learning.
4. Have shown prior interest in his/her vocational career.
5. Must be enrolled as a full time student.

SELECTION PROCEDURE:

Recipient will be chosen on the basis of:

1. Preferably an interest in environmental engineering or other related fields.
2. Excellence in high school grades and point average.
3. Test results (SAT, ACT, or others).
4. Other indications of character and leadership.
5. Need.

TO APPLY:

Student:

1. Complete Applicant Data Form, Transcript Release Form and Financial Need Sheet.
2. Return completed data form to school office not later than 15 March of any given year.

Counselor:

1. Complete Counselor's Student Data Information Form.
2. Send Student's Transcripts, Applicant Data Forms to the Destin Water Users Scholarship Committee by 15 March of any given year.

Attachment #3

**DESTIN WATER USERS, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

APPLICANT DATA FORM

Name: _____ Date: _____
 (Last) First (MI)

Mailing Address: _____ Phone: _____

Residence Address: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____
 (Month, Day, Year)

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Occupation of Father: _____ Work Phone: _____

Occupation of Mother: _____ Work Phone: _____

High Schools Attended: (Include school name, city, state, and date of entrance):

1. Are you a member of the National Honor Society, Beta Club or other Honor Societies? (names, dates – please note if officer)

2. Special Honors, Awards, etc. (scholastic and community) received during high school years.

3. List participation in school activities and elected positions (please indicate years).

4. List participation in community activities (church, Red Cross, hospital auxiliary, etc.).

5. Are you the recipient of any other awards or scholarships? If yes, specify sponsor and amount. Please include the type of Florida Bright's scholarship.

6. List any employment (summer jobs and/or after school jobs).

7. List colleges to which you have applied for admission (include location).

8. If you have been accepted, please state name and location of schools.

9. What is your intended educational objective? (Please include a narrative description on a separate sheet of paper. Do not exceed 200 words).

Signature of Applicant

Attachment #4

DESTIN WATER USERS, INC.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

P.O. BOX 308

DESTIN, FLORIDA 32540

COUNSELOR'S STUDENT DATA INFORMATION FORM

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS APPLICABLE FOR DESIRED SCHOLARSHIP.

Student's
Name _____

(Last)

(First)

(Middle)

1. Number in graduating class: _____ Approx Class Rank (%) _____

Year to graduate: _____

2. Grade point average (based on A-4,B-3,C-2,D-1) _____

3. SAT Scores: (Math) _____ (Verbal) _____

4. ACT: _____

5. GATB: _____

6. ASVB: _____

7. Florida Test Score: _____

8. Other test score(s) (Please state name and score):

9. Academic courses taken (please indicate number of credit hours carried each school year):

a. 1st year: _____

b. 2nd year: _____

c. 3rd year: _____

d. 4th year: _____

10. Attendance Record: Good: _____ Average: _____ Poor: _____

11. Recommendation of Counselor: Yes _____ No _____

12. Please provide any other information you deem noteworthy concerning the applicant.

We request that this form be completed by a duly authorized representative of the school and retained in the school office until the student hands in his/her completed application. This questionnaire, along with the student's application, must be returned to the Destin Water Users Scholarship Committee, no later than 15 March of each year.

**Signature of Guidance Counselor
Or Principal**

Attachment #5

**DESTIN WATER USERS, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

TRANSCRIPT RELEASE FORM

1. If selected as a winner, I shall not receive the actual scholarship until I have enrolled at an accredited school and have so notified the committee so the money can be sent to the school.
2. Should I transfer to another school before using all of the available funds, such funds as remain may be transferred by the registrar to the new school of my choice upon approval of the Destin Water Users Scholarship Committee.
3. I authorize my school to release a copy of my high school transcript to the Destin Water Users Scholarship Committee.

Student's Signature

Date

Attachment #6

**DESTIN WATER USERS, INC.
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

FINANCIAL NEED SHEET

Check one:

Gross income from all sources of parent(s)/guardian during the calendar year.

- _____ Above \$150,000
- _____ Between \$100,000 and \$150,000
- _____ Between \$80,000 and \$100,000
- _____ Between \$60,000 and \$80,000
- _____ Between \$40,000 and \$60,000
- _____ Below \$40,000

Names of brothers and sisters in family and their ages:

Name	Age	Grade in School (if applicable)
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Parent/Guardian