

Bridges & Ladders LGBTQ+ Scholarship - ALL CHAPTERS

Overview

This endowed scholarship is established and awarded by the EOA Foundation and is non-renewable. Students are nominated by TRIO/EOP professionals within their respective Chapters and selected through a process jointly administered by EOA and the EOA Foundation.

Awards:

One \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded annually. Each EOA Chapter may select one semifinalist from the following chapters: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri/ Kansas/ Nebraska, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The EOA Committee will convene a panel of readers to review semifinalists and select the final award recipient. This is a one-time, non-renewable scholarship.

Eligibility:

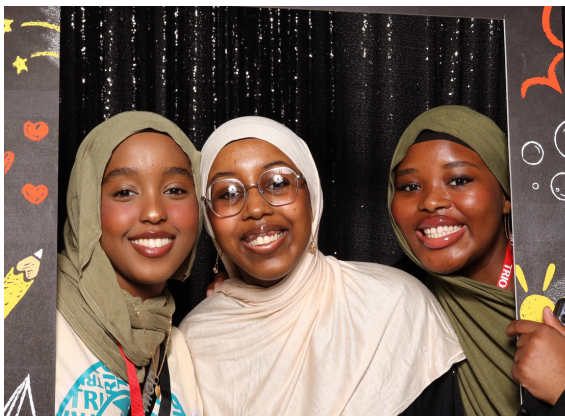
The student nominee must meet the following criteria to apply:

1. Be a current TRIO/EOP participant within the EOA region
2. Be enrolled at least half-time in a two-year or four-year post-secondary institution for the upcoming academic year or have anticipated enrollment for current high school seniors
3. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on an unweighted 4.0 scale
4. Demonstrate leadership, involvement, and experiences that intersect with the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and ally (LGBTQ+) communities

The nominator must be a current EOA member at the time of scholarship deadline. Membership status will be verified by the Chapter Membership and Credentials Chair.

Application Materials:

- Nomination Letter- double-spaced and not exceeding two pages or single-spaced one page
- Current Unofficial Academic Transcript, must include current semester schedule
- Student Personal Statement- double-spaced and not exceeding two pages
 - Must address the following:
 - The impact of a TRIO or Education Opportunity Program on the student's education
 - Demonstrate the student's leadership, involvement, and/or experiences that intersect with the LGBTQ+ and/or ally community
 - Why receiving the Bridges and Ladders LGBTQ+ scholarship is important to the student



Dr. Celerstine Johnson Leadership Scholarship – ALL CHAPTERS

Overview

This scholarship honors a visionary leader whose work profoundly influenced higher education and expanded opportunities for first-generation and income-eligible students through TRIO programs. Dr. Johnson served as board chair of the Council for Opportunity in Education (1993–1994) and led both state and regional associations, including Mo-Kan-Ne and the Educational Opportunity Association (1990-1991- formerly MAEOPP). She championed the CAS Standards and directed the EOA Institute for Leadership and Program Management (renamed Emerging Leaders Institute). As Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Management Emeritus at St. Louis University, Dr. Johnson secured over \$10 million in funding, directed TRIO programs, and developed a Summer Enrichment Program for at-risk freshmen. Her legacy exemplifies the transformative power of education.

[Learn more about Dr. Celerstine Johnson here](#)

One non-renewable \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded to a student in the EOA region. Chapter Scholarship Committees will select semi-finalists, and the EOA Scholarship Committee will choose the final recipient.

The Dr. Celerstine Johnson Leadership Scholarship, formerly known as the Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI) Scholarship, was established in collaboration with the EOA Emerging Leaders Institute and the EOA Foundation (EOAF). Since 2002, select EOA ELI cohorts have fundraised each year for student scholarships. One student in the EOA region will be awarded \$1000.00 toward their educational needs. Each Chapter Scholarship Committee will select a semi-finalist for their respective chapter. The EOA Scholarship Committee will have a panel of readers to select the finalist for the current year award. This award is non-renewable.

Awards:

One \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded annually. Each EOA Chapter may select one semifinalist from the following chapters: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri/Kansas/Nebraska, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The EOA Committee will convene a panel of readers to review semifinalists and select the final award recipient. This is a one-time, non-renewable scholarship.

Eligibility:

The student nominee must meet the following criteria to apply:

1. Be a current TRIO/EOP participant within the EOA region
2. Be enrolled at least half-time in a two-year or four-year postsecondary institution for the upcoming academic year, or anticipate enrollment if currently a high school senior
3. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on an unweighted 4.0 scale
4. Demonstrate strong leadership within their community and/or through advocacy efforts in their TRIO/EOP community

The nominator must be a current EOA member at the time of scholarship deadline. Membership status will be verified by the Chapter Membership and Credentials Chair.

Application Materials:

- Nomination Letter- double-spaced and not exceeding two pages or single-spaced one page
- Current Unofficial Academic Transcript, must include current semester schedule
- Student Personal Statement- double-spaced and not exceeding two pages
 - Must address the following:
 - The impact of a TRIO or Education Opportunity Program on the student's education
 - The impact of how TRIO/EOP programs have impacted the student's leadership skills and abilities. How the student plans to continue their leadership within their community and/or the TRIO/EOP community
 - Why receiving the Dr. Celerstine Johnson Leadership Scholarship is important to the student

EOA Board of Directors Scholarship – ALL CHAPTERS (PRECOLLEGE)

Overview

The EOA Board of Directors Scholarships are sponsored and awarded by the EOA Board of Directors. Students are nominated by TRIO/EOP professionals in their respective chapters.

Recipients are selected by each Chapter Scholarship Committee, and scholarships are awarded by the EOA Foundation (EOAF). The number of EOA Board Scholarships awarded each year varies based on available financial resources. Each chapter may select one student per state, who becomes the scholarship recipient(s) for that chapter. No additional review occurs beyond the chapter-level selection. EOA Board of Director Scholarships are non-renewable.

Awards:

One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in each state within the EOA region: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin. A total of ten (10) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded. This scholarship is a one-time, non-renewable award.

Eligibility

The student nominee must meet the following criteria to apply:

1. Be a current precollege TRIO/EOP participant within the EOA region and enrolled at least half-time or more
2. Be a graduating high school senior with anticipation of at least half-time enrollment in an accredited two or four-year post-secondary institution
3. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on an unweighted 4.0 scale
4. Demonstrate involvement in co-curricular or community activities and/or leadership

The nominator must be a current EOA member at the time of scholarship deadline. Membership status will be verified by the Chapter Membership and Credentials Chair.

Application Materials:

- Nomination Letter- double-spaced and not exceeding two pages or single-spaced one page
- Current Unofficial Academic Transcript, must include current semester schedule
- Student Personal Statement- double-spaced and not exceeding two pages
 - Must address the following:
 - The impact of a TRIO or Education Opportunity Program on the student's education
 - The student's co-curricular involvement, community involvement and/or leadership experiences
 - Why receiving the EOA Board of Directors Scholarship is important to the student



Robert Jenkins Memorial Scholarship – ALL CHAPTERS (TS ONLY)

Overview

After Robert Jenkins retired from the Air Force, he continued his love and passion for education by working with the Higher Education Consortium of Metropolitan St. Louis Educational Talent Search (ETS) program for 23 years until retiring in 2014. While working full-time for ETS Robert also served as a member of EOA and was the organization's treasurer until retiring in 2015. Robert was committed to broadening student access and success in formal and post-secondary education. EOA recognized him as an Honorary Professional Member and in 2018, he was inducted into the MKN (Missouri-Kansas-Nebraska) Hall of Fame.

This endowed scholarship is established by the EOA Foundation in collaboration with the EOA Board of Directors. Students are nominated by TRIO/EOP professionals within their respective chapters and selected through a process jointly administered by EOA and the EOA Foundation. The scholarship is awarded by the EOA Foundation and is non-renewable.

Awards:

One \$1,500 scholarship will be awarded annually. This scholarship is open to all EOA Chapters; however, no chapter may receive more than one award in a given year. Each chapter may select one semifinalist from the following chapters: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri/Kansas/Nebraska, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The EOA Committee will convene a panel of readers to review semifinalists and select the final award recipient. This is a one-time, non-renewable scholarship.

Eligibility

The student nominee must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a current precollege TRIO/EOP participant within the EOA region and enrolled at least half-time or more
2. Be from a first-generation or low-income background and/or be a student with a disability
3. Be a Talent Search (TS) student who is a graduating high school senior with anticipated enrollment at least half-time at an accredited two or four-year post-secondary institution
4. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 on an unweighted 4.0 scale
5. Demonstrate involvement in co-curricular activities and/or community service

The nominator must be a current EOA member at the time of scholarship deadline. Membership status will be verified by the Chapter Membership and Credentials Chair.

Application Materials:

- Nomination Letter- double-spaced and not exceeding two pages or single-spaced one page
- Current Unofficial Academic Transcript, must include current semester schedule
- Student Personal Statement- double-spaced and not exceeding two pages
 - Must address the following:
 - The impact of a TRIO or Education Opportunity Program on the student's education
 - The student's co-curricular involvement, community involvement and/or leadership experiences
 - Why receiving the Robert Jenkins Memorial Scholarship is important to the student

****Open to graduating Talent Search students only.****

James B. Hamilton & Thomas G. Mortenson Student Research Award – ALL CHAPTERS

Awards:

One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded. The EOA Foundation will award the scholarship to the student with the strongest research proposal that aligns with the mission and goals of EOA. This is a one-time, non-renewable award.

Eligibility

The student nominee must meet the following criteria to apply:

1. Be a current participant or a recent graduate (within the past two years) of a TRIO or Educational Opportunity Program (EOP)
2. Be enrolled full-time by the fall semester immediately following the application cycle
 - a. Full-time enrollment is defined as:
 - i. Undergraduate: minimum of 12 credit hours per semester
 - ii. Graduate: minimum of 9 credit hours per semester or 12 credit hours per quarter
 - b. Verification of full-time enrollment is required
3. Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale
4. Be conducting a research project aligned with the mission, goals and purpose of EOA
5. Be nominated by a current member of EOA at the time of the scholarship deadline

The nominator must be a current EOA member at the time of scholarship deadline. Membership status will be verified by the Chapter Membership and Credentials Chair.

Application Materials:

- Two Letters of Recommendation- one letter from the nominator and one from a faculty project advisor
- Current Unofficial Academic Transcript, must include current semester schedule
- Completion of Research Proposal Application
- Uploads- 2 letters of recommendation from the Nominator and Faculty Advisor
 - Timeline
 - Budget Narrative
 - Supplemental Materials: IRB Approval, TRIO/EOP Director's Approval, etc.
- Final Report: submitted by May 15 of the following year with a description of project status, timeline of completion, expenditures and final dissemination

Submit nominations using the following link: [2026 EOA Hamilton & Mortenson Research Award Nomination Form](https://forms.gle/AcfuPpvRbmDYfW1T9).

**If the link does not open, please copy and paste the URL into your browser:
<https://forms.gle/AcfuPpvRbmDYfW1T9>**

2026 Scholarship Guide for Students

If you participate in a TRIO or Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) within the EOA Region, you may be eligible to be nominated for scholarships sponsored by EOA and the EOA Foundation by a current EOA member.

Tips for a Successful Nomination:

- Read and learn about the scholarship you are being nominated for so you understand its purpose and requirements
- Know what materials you need to complete to support your nominator in submitting your nomination
- Use the provided rubric to guide you in your scholarship essay, the rubric is used to score all submitted nominations
- Work closely with your nominator to ensure all materials are complete and submitted on time

What will you need if you are nominated?

- Current academic transcript
- Student Essay

*All documents must be saved in PDF format. Your nominator will upload as part of the nomination form.

What's included in the nomination?

The EOA Foundation Scholarship nomination form will ask for the following information:

- Student Information
 - Your contact information and basic demographic information
 - Eligibility information to confirm you meet the scholarship requirements
- Academic information- you will be asked to provide different information based on your current status:
 - High School Seniors:
 - Current high school name
 - TRIO program institution
 - Graduation date
 - College Students and Adult Learners
 - Undergraduate major
 - Current year in school
 - Name of current two-year or four-year institution you are currently attending
- Essay questions- each scholarship includes 3–4- questions designed to help you explain why you are a strong candidate, common essay topics include but are not limited to:
 - Common topics include:
 - The impact of a TRIO or EOP on your education
 - Your co-curricular and/or community involvement
 - Why the EOA Scholarship is important to you

Bridges & Ladders LGBTQ+ Scholarship Rubric - ALL CHAPTERS

One semifinalist per Chapter, Two rounds of competition, One award of \$1,500

Scholarship Scoring Rubric 35 points possible					
Eligibility Criteria					
Current TRIO/EOP participant in the EOA Region					Y / N
Currently enrolled at lease half -time (6 credit hours or equivalent)					Y / N
Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher (unweighted), GPA requirement waived for VUB or EOC participants					Y / N
Student Essay (no more than two pages, typed, double-spaced) - max 20 points					
	0	2	4	6	8
Impact of TRIO: Measures student’s ability to reflect on how their participation in a TRIO or Educational Opportunity Program has influenced their educational journey	Does not provide examples of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 1 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 2 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 3 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success without including personal reflection on the impact	Provides 3 or more examples of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success including personal reflection on the impact
Scholarship Specific Criteria: Provides insight into student’s leadership, involvement, and/or experiences that intersect with the LGBTQ+ and/or ally community	Does not provide more than a list of student co-curricular involvement and/or experiences of the LGBTQ+ and/or ally community	Provides 1 example of co-curricular or involvement as a one time participant and/or experiences of the LGBTQ+ and/or ally community	Provides 1 example of co-curricular or involvement as a regularly involved member and/or experiences of the LGBTQ+ and/or ally community	Provides 1-2 examples of co-curricular or involvement as a regularly involved member and/or experiences of the LGBTQ+ and/or ally community including context but not including personal reflection	Provides 1-2 examples of co-curricular or involvement in a position of leadership and experiences of the LGBTQ+ and/or ally community including detailed context and insightful personal reflection of the impact
Personal Importance: Assesses the student’s understanding and personal connection to the importance of this scholarship	Does not address why scholarship is important to them	Minimally addresses why scholarship is important to them and is unclear or vague	Adequately addresses why scholarship is important to them and provides explanation and/or examples	Addresses why the scholarship is important to them and provides some details about how scholarship will impact them	Provides specific examples why the scholarship is important to them and includes specific details about how this scholarship will impact them

Bridges & Ladders LGBTQ+ Scholarship Rubric - CONTINUED

One semifinalist per Chapter, Two rounds of competition, One award of \$1,500

Nominator Letter (no more than 2 pages, typed, double-spaced or 1 page, typed, single-spaced) - max 12 pts

	0	1	2	3	4
Articulates student's engagement, impact of program resources and speaks to student's engagement and connectedness	Does not address student's engagement or impact of program resources	Provides vague or unclear information about program participation and student engagement	Provides information about general program participation	Provides specific examples of student engagement from the program	Provides specific examples of student engagement from the program including how they leveraged the information received and connectedness with the program
Provides insight into student's co-curricular or community involvement that includes leadership capabilities, skill, potential and character	Does not provide more than a list of leadership skills or abilities	Provides vague or unclear information about student involvement	Provides general information about student involvement, leadership or character	Provides examples of student's abilities, skill, potential or character with few details about the student	Provides specific examples of student's abilities, skill, potential and character. Provides details and specific examples of challenges the student has experienced or is overcoming
Measures the overall effectiveness of nominator in articulating why student should be selected for the scholarship, focusing on the persuasiveness and coherence of their arguments	The recommendation lacks persuasive language or coherence providing little support for why the student should be selected for the scholarship	Provides some support for the student's selection, but the argument is limited in persuasiveness or coherence, with minimal details	Offers a generally persuasive and coherent argument for the student's selection, with at least 1 clear reason or example supporting the student's qualification	Provides a persuasive and coherent argument for the student's selection with 2 or more clear reasons or examples supporting the student's qualifications	Delivers a highly persuasive, coherent, and compelling argument for the student's selection, with 2 or more specific reasons and examples that strongly support the student's qualifications and potential impact of the scholarship

Overall Assessment - max 3 pts

	0	1	2	3	
Reader's impression of the nomination is based on the engagement, clarity, and distinctiveness of the student's story	No Engagement: Story feels detached or impersonal Very Unclear: Disorganized, difficult to follow. No Lasting Impression: Lacks memorable or distinguishing elements	Low Engagement: Detached, lacking emotional appeal Unclear or disorganized: Difficult to follow or lacks clear structure Forgettable: Generic or vague, with minimal unique qualities	Moderately Engaging: Holds interest with some emotional appeal Reasonably Written: Organized but lacks depth or smooth transitions Somewhat Memorable: Relatable with a few standout moments	Highly Engaging: Compelling story with strong emotional appeal Clearly Written and Memorable: Well-structured, leaving a lasting impression Distinguished Perspective: Unique experiences or goals that stand out	

Total Points Maximum 35 _____

Dr. Celerstine Johnson Leadership Scholarship Rubric - ALL CHAPTERS

One semifinalist per Chapter, Two rounds of competition, One award of \$1,500

Scholarship Scoring Rubric 35 points possible

Eligibility Criteria

Current TRIO/EOP participant in EOA Region	Y / N
Currently enrolled at least half-time (6 credit hours or equivalent)	Y / N
Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher (unweighted), GPA requirement waived for VUB or EOC participants	Y / N

Student Essay (no more than two pages, typed, double-spaced) - max 20 points

	0	2	4	6	8
Impact of TRIO: Measures student's ability to reflect on how their participation in a TRIO or Educational Opportunity Program has influenced their educational journey	Does not provide examples of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 1 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 2 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 3 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success without including personal reflection on the impact	Provides 3 or more examples of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success including personal reflection on the impact
Scholarship Specific Criteria: Provides insight into how TRIO/EOP programs have impacted student's leadership skills, abilities and how the student plans to continue their leadership within their community and/or the TRIO/EOP community	Does not provide more than a list of leadership skills or abilities	Provides 1 example of leadership skills or ability as a one time participant	Provides 1 example of leadership skills or abilities as a regularly involved member	Provides 1-2 examples of leadership skills or abilities as a regularly involved member including context but not including personal reflection and/or limited details about continuing leadership	Provides 1-2 examples of how TRIO/EOP programs have impacted their leadership skills and abilities including detailed context, and how they plan to continue leadership within their community and/or the TRIO/EOP community
Personal Importance: Assesses the student's understanding and personal connection to the importance of this scholarship	Does not address why scholarship is important to them	Minimally addresses why scholarship is important to them and is unclear or vague	Adequately addresses why scholarship is important to them and provides explanation and/or examples	Addresses why the scholarship is important to them and provides some details about how scholarship will impact them	Provides specific examples why the scholarship is important to them and includes specific details about how this scholarship will impact them

Dr. Celerstine Johnson Leadership Scholarship Rubric - ALL CHAPTERS

One semifinalist per Chapter, Two rounds of competition, One award of \$1,500

Nominator Letter (no more than 2 pages, typed, double-spaced or 1 page, typed, single-spaced) - max 12 pts					
	0	1	2	3	4
Articulates student's engagement, impact of program resources and speaks to student's engagement and connectedness	Does not address student's engagement or impact of program resources	Provides vague or unclear information about program participation and student engagement	Provides information about general program participation	Provides specific examples of student engagement from the program	Provides specific examples of student engagement from the program including how they leveraged the information received and connectedness with the program
Provides insight into student's co-curricular or community involvement that includes leadership capabilities, skill, potential and character	Does not provide more than a list of leadership skills or abilities	Provides vague or unclear information about student involvement	Provides general information about student involvement, leadership or character	Provides examples of student's abilities, skill, potential or character with few details about the student	Provides specific examples of student's abilities, skill, potential and character. Provides details and specific examples of challenges the student has experienced or is overcoming
Measures the overall effectiveness of nominator in articulating why student should be selected for the scholarship, focusing on the persuasiveness and coherence of their arguments	The recommendation lacks persuasive language or coherence providing little support for why the student should be selected for the scholarship	Provides some support for the student's selection, but the argument is limited in persuasiveness or coherence, with minimal details	Offers a generally persuasive and coherent argument for the student's selection, with at least 1 clear reason or example supporting the student's qualification	Provides a persuasive and coherent argument for the student's selection with 2 or more clear reasons or examples supporting the student's qualifications	Delivers a highly persuasive, coherent, and compelling argument for the student's selection, with 2 or more specific reasons and examples that strongly support the student's qualifications and potential impact of the scholarship
Overall Assessment - max 3 pts					
	0	1	2	3	
Reader's impression of the nomination is based on the engagement, clarity, and distinctiveness of the student's story	No Engagement: Story feels detached or impersonal Very Unclear: Disorganized, difficult to follow. No Lasting Impression: Lacks memorable or distinguishing elements	Low Engagement: Detached, lacking emotional appeal Unclear or disorganized: Difficult to follow or lacks clear structure Forgettable: Generic or vague, with minimal unique qualities	Moderately Engaging: Holds interest with some emotional appeal Reasonably Written: Organized but lacks depth or smooth transitions Somewhat Memorable: Relatable with a few standout moments	Highly Engaging: Compelling story with strong emotional appeal Clearly Written and Memorable: Well-structured, leaving a lasting impression Distinguished Perspective: Unique experiences or goals that stand out	
Total Points Maximum 35 _____					

EOA Board of Directors Scholarship Rubric - ALL CHAPTERS (PRECOLLEGE)

One finalist per state within the EOA region, Ten awards of \$1,000

Scholarship Scoring Rubric 35 points possible

Eligibility Criteria

Current precollege TRIO/EOP participant in EOA Region	Y / N
Currently enrolled at least half -time (6 credit hours or equivalent)	Y / N
Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher (unweighted), GPA requirement waived for VUB or EOC participants	Y / N

Student Essay (no more than two pages, typed, double-spaced) - max 20 points

	0	2	4	6	8
Impact of TRIO: Measures student's ability to reflect on how their participation in a TRIO or Educational Opportunity Program has influenced their educational journey	Does not provide examples of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 1 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 2 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 3 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success without including personal reflection on the impact	Provides 3 or more examples of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success including personal reflection on the impact
Scholarship Specific Criteria: Provides insight into examples of co-curricular and/or community involvement and/or leadership	Does not provide more than a list of student co-curricular community involvement and/or leadership	Provides 1 example of co-curricular community involvement and/or leadership as a one time participant	Provides 1 example of co-curricular community involvement and/or leadership as a regularly involved member	Provides 1-2 examples of co-curricular community involvement and/or leadership as a regularly involved member including the context but not including personal reflection	Provides 1-2 examples of co-curricular or community involvement in a position of leadership including detailed context, and insightful personal reflection of the impact
Personal Importance: Assesses the student's understanding and personal connection to the importance of this scholarship	Does not address why scholarship is important to them	Minimally addresses why scholarship is important to them and is unclear or vague	Adequately addresses why scholarship is important to them and provides explanation and/or examples	Addresses why the scholarship is important to them and provides some details about how scholarship will impact them	Provides specific examples why the scholarship is important to them and includes specific details about how this scholarship will impact them

EOA Board of Directors Scholarship Rubric - ALL CHAPTERS (PRECOLLEGE)

One finalist per state within the EOA region, Ten awards of \$1,000

Nominator Letter (no more than 2 pages, typed, double-spaced or 1 page, typed, single-spaced) - max 12 pts

	0	1	2	3	4
Articulates student's engagement, impact of program resources and speaks to student's engagement and connectedness	Does not address student's engagement or impact of program resources	Provides vague or unclear information about program participation and student engagement	Provides information about general program participation	Provides specific examples of student engagement from the program	Provides specific examples of student engagement from the program including how they leveraged the information received and connectedness with the program
Provides insight into student's co-curricular or community involvement that includes leadership capabilities, skill, potential and character	Does not provide more than a list of leadership skills or abilities	Provides vague or unclear information about student involvement	Provides general information about student involvement, leadership or character	Provides examples of student's abilities, skill, potential or character with few details about the student	Provides specific examples of student's abilities, skill, potential and character. Provides details and specific examples of challenges the student has experienced or is overcoming
Measures the overall effectiveness of nominator in articulating why student should be selected for the scholarship, focusing on the persuasiveness and coherence of their arguments	The recommendation lacks persuasive language or coherence providing little support for why the student should be selected for the scholarship	Provides some support for the student's selection, but the argument is limited in persuasiveness or coherence, with minimal details	Offers a generally persuasive and coherent argument for the student's selection, with at least 1 clear reason or example supporting the student's qualification	Provides a persuasive and coherent argument for the student's selection with 2 or more clear reasons or examples supporting the student's qualifications	Delivers a highly persuasive, coherent, and compelling argument for the student's selection, with 2 or more specific reasons and examples that strongly support the student's qualifications and potential impact of the scholarship

Overall Assessment - max 3 pts

	0	1	2	3	
Reader's impression of the nomination is based on the engagement, clarity, and distinctiveness of the student's story	No Engagement: Story feels detached or impersonal Very Unclear: Disorganized, difficult to follow. No Lasting Impression: Lacks memorable or distinguishing elements	Low Engagement: Detached, lacking emotional appeal Unclear or disorganized: Difficult to follow or lacks clear structure Forgettable: Generic or vague, with minimal unique qualities	Moderately Engaging: Holds interest with some emotional appeal Reasonably Written: Organized but lacks depth or smooth transitions Somewhat Memorable: Relatable with a few standout moments	Highly Engaging: Compelling story with strong emotional appeal Clearly Written and Memorable: Well-structured, leaving a lasting impression Distinguished Perspective: Unique experiences or goals that stand out	

Total Points Maximum 35 _____

Robert Jenkins Memorial Scholarship Rubric - ALL CHAPTERS

One semifinalist per chapter, One award of \$1,500

Scholarship Scoring Rubric 35 points possible					
Eligibility Criteria					
Current TRIO/EOP participant in EOA Region					Y / N
First generation or low-income background and/or student with a disability					Y / N
Current Talent Search participant and graduating high school senior					Y / N
Currently enrolled at least half -time (6 credit hours or equivalent)					Y / N
Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher (unweighted), GPA requirement waived for VUB or EOC participants					Y / N
Student Essay (no more than two pages, typed, double-spaced) - max 20 points					
	0	2	4	6	8
Impact of TRIO: Measures student's ability to reflect on how their participation in a TRIO or Educational Opportunity Program has influenced their educational journey	Does not provide examples of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 1 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 2 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success	Provides 3 example of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success without including personal reflection on the impact	Provides 3 or more examples of how TRIO/EOP programs have contributed to their success including personal reflection on the impact
Scholarship Specific Criteria: Provides insight into examples of co-curricular and/or community involvement and/or leadership	Does not provide more than a list of student co-curricular community involvement and/or leadership	Provides 1 example of co-curricular community involvement and/or leadership as a one time participant	Provides 1 example of co-curricular community involvement and/or leadership as a regularly involved member	Provides 1-2 examples of co-curricular community involvement and/or leadership as a regularly involved member including the context but not including personal reflection	Provides 1-2 examples of co-curricular or community involvement in a position of leadership including detailed context, and insightful personal reflection of the impact
Personal Importance: Assesses the student's understanding and personal connection to the importance of this scholarship	Does not address why scholarship is important to them	Minimally addresses why scholarship is important to them and is unclear or vague	Adequately addresses why scholarship is important to them and provides explanation and/or examples	Addresses why the scholarship is important to them and provides some details about how scholarship will impact them	Provides specific examples why the scholarship is important to them and includes specific details about how this scholarship will impact them

Robert Jenkins Memorial Scholarship Rubric - ALL CHAPTERS

One semifinalist per chapter, One awards of \$1,500

Nominator Letter (no more than 2 pages, typed, double-spaced or 1 page, typed, single-spaced) - max 12 pts					
	0	1	2	3	4
Articulates student's engagement, impact of program resources and speaks to student's engagement and connectedness	Does not address student's engagement or impact of program resources	Provides vague or unclear information about program participation and student engagement	Provides information about general program participation	Provides specific examples of student engagement from the program	Provides specific examples of student engagement from the program including how they leveraged the information received and connectedness with the program
Provides insight into student's co-curricular or community involvement that includes leadership capabilities, skill, potential and character	Does not provide more than a list of leadership skills or abilities	Provides vague or unclear information about student involvement	Provides general information about student involvement, leadership or character	Provides examples of student's abilities, skill, potential or character with few details about the student	Provides specific examples of student's abilities, skill, potential and character. Provides details and specific examples of challenges the student has experienced or is overcoming
Measures the overall effectiveness of nominator in articulating why student should be selected for the scholarship, focusing on the persuasiveness and coherence of their arguments	The recommendation lacks persuasive language or coherence providing little support for why the student should be selected for the scholarship	Provides some support for the student's selection, but the argument is limited in persuasiveness or coherence, with minimal details	Offers a generally persuasive and coherent argument for the student's selection, with at least 1 clear reason or example supporting the student's qualification	Provides a persuasive and coherent argument for the student's selection with 2 or more clear reasons or examples supporting the student's qualifications	Delivers a highly persuasive, coherent, and compelling argument for the student's selection, with 2 or more specific reasons and examples that strongly support the student's qualifications and potential impact of the scholarship
Overall Assessment - max 3 pts					
	0	1	2	3	
Reader's impression of the nomination is based on the engagement, clarity, and distinctiveness of the student's story	No Engagement: Story feels detached or impersonal Very Unclear: Disorganized, difficult to follow. No Lasting Impression: Lacks memorable or distinguishing elements	Low Engagement: Detached, lacking emotional appeal Unclear or disorganized: Difficult to follow or lacks clear structure Forgettable: Generic or vague, with minimal unique qualities	Moderately Engaging: Holds interest with some emotional appeal Reasonably Written: Organized but lacks depth or smooth transitions Somewhat Memorable: Relatable with a few standout moments	Highly Engaging: Compelling story with strong emotional appeal Clearly Written and Memorable: Well-structured, leaving a lasting impression Distinguished Perspective: Unique experiences or goals that stand out	
Total Points Maximum 35 _____					