



# Burleson Opportunity Fund

A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES

## Applicant & Recipient Handbook

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## **Mission**

To change the expectations of students, teachers and parents to include the idea that all high school graduates from Burleson will have the opportunity to attain higher education and to cultivate the economic development benefits of expanding the attainment of post-secondary degrees and career certifications.

## **Purpose**

To encourage graduating high school seniors to further their education in Burleson, thereby:

- Helping to create a better trained, educated and prepared local work force;
- Enhancing the local economy by supporting a thriving center for higher education;
- Capitalizing on the link between higher education and economic development; and
- Helping to ease the transition from secondary to higher education for Burleson families.

## **Goal**

To provide every high school graduate from Burleson the opportunity to attain post-secondary education.

## **APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Information for those applying for the Burleson Opportunity Fund scholarship.

### **Scholarship Eligibility**

1. A Burleson ISD high school graduate, or
2. A Burleson resident graduating from:
  - A non-Burleson ISD public high school,
  - An accredited private school, or
  - An accredited home school program.

### **Scholarship Application**

To apply, students are required to submit an application to the Burleson Opportunity Fund. Applications can be submitted through the Burleson Opportunity Fund website at [www.BurlesonOppFund.com](http://www.BurlesonOppFund.com).

The application is used to determine interest and eligibility for the scholarship. Scholarships are not awarded based on academic merit or financial need. To be considered, application must be submitted on or before the due date.

### **Communication with Applicant**

All communication will be via email using the email address that the applicant provided on their application.

Applicant contact information must be kept valid and up-to-date.

### **Terms of the Fund**

All deadlines must be met in order to maintain eligibility and to receive the Burleson Opportunity Fund scholarship.

The Burleson Opportunity Fund provides tuition and fees for post-secondary education at Hill College. Funds are dispersed directly to Hill College from the Burleson Opportunity Fund after federal and/or state financial aid sources are exhausted.

## **FIRST-YEAR RECIPIENT INFORMATION**

Information for those who are recipients of the Burleson Opportunity Fund scholarship in their first year of post-secondary education at Hill College.

### **Scholarship Requirements**

Once students are notified that they will receive the scholarship, they must fulfill the following scholarship requirements:

1. Be admitted to and enrolled in Hill College (<http://www.hillcollege.edu/>).
2. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and enter the Hill College school code 003573. (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>).
3. Submit all requested forms and documents to the appropriate person(s).
4. Enroll in 12-16 credit hours per regular semester (Fall/ Spring) (Max. total of 32 credit hours).
5. Enroll in Learning Frameworks PSYC 1100 in their first semester.
6. Complete 8 hours of community service.
7. Assist the BOF in promoting the program and mentoring future students.

### **Earn Credit Policy**

Recipients must earn credit in **all** enrolled classes. Recipients are allowed to drop only **one** class during the time they are receiving the scholarship.

### **Communication with Recipient**

All communication will be via email using the email address that the applicant provided on their application.

Applicant contact information must be kept valid and up-to-date.

### **Terms of the Fund**

All deadlines must be met in order to maintain eligibility and to receive the Burleson Opportunity Fund scholarship.

First-year students entering their second semester are required to have a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 to qualify for BOF scholarship funds.

The Burleson Opportunity Fund provides tuition and fees for post-secondary education at Hill College. Funds are dispersed directly to Hill College from the Burleson Opportunity Fund after federal and/or state financial aid sources are exhausted.

## **SECOND-YEAR RECIPIENT INFORMATION**

Information for those who are recipients of the Burleson Opportunity Fund scholarship in their second year of post-secondary education at Hill College.

### **Scholarship Requirements**

Once students are notified that they will receive the scholarship, they must fulfill the following scholarship requirements:

1. Be admitted to and enrolled in Hill College (<http://www.hillcollege.edu/>).
2. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and enter the Hill College school code 003573. (<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>).
3. Submit all requested forms and documents to the appropriate person(s).
4. Enroll in 12-16 credit hours per regular semester (Fall/ Spring) (Max. total of 32 credit hours).
5. Complete 8 hours of community service.
6. Assist the BOF in promoting the program and mentoring future students.

### **Earn Credit Policy**

Recipients must earn credit in **all** enrolled classes. Recipients are allowed to drop only **one** class during the time they are receiving the scholarship.

### **Communication with Recipient**

All communication will be via email using the email address that the applicant provided on their application.

Applicant contact information must be kept valid and up-to-date.

### **Terms of the Fund**

All deadlines must be met in order to maintain eligibility and to receive the Burleson Opportunity Fund scholarship.

Second-year students are required to have a minimum of 21 completed credit hours after their first year, a minimum of 8 community service hours after their first year, and a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 after their first year to qualify for BOF scholarship funds.

Additionally, second-year students with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 may receive a \$500/per semester stipend for books if funds are available.

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**Disclaimer:**

*All information contained in this handbook is subject to change. Documents contained in this handbook are subject to change at any time and are not considered to be exhaustive of those that may be distributed. New or altered documents may be utilized which have not been published in this handbook. All funds will be paid directly to the educational institution. Any refunds due will be paid directly to The Burleson Opportunity Fund. Funding is dependent upon availability*

**Scholarship Timeline**

Application Open	between	December 11 - February 23
Documents Due	between	February 24 - March 30
<i>Lottery (if necessary)</i>	<i>completed</i>	by April 30
Recipients Notified	no later than	May 5
Awards Night Presentation	in	May
Orientation (required)	in	May (Date TBD each year)
Community Service Log	due by	November 15
Eligibility Notification	sent by	December 31

***Approved by the  
Burleson Opportunity Fund Board of Directors  
January 11, 2018***