## White Rock Baptist Church Scholarship Policy

The purpose of the White Rock Baptist Church (WRBC) Scholarship Fund is to demonstrate the church's commitment to our young people in their endeavors toward attaining higher education. To this end, the Scholarship Committee uses available funds to make awards to students who are members of the church and are pursuing their first undergraduate degree. Applicants will have the responsibility of adhering to the guidelines/policy set forth by the Scholarship Committee to meet eligibility.

**Eligibility:** To be eligible to receive funds through the Scholarship Committee, the student shall meet the following requirements:

- 1. Maintain active membership in the WRBC for the past 12 months prior to making application.
- 2. Matriculate as a full-time student (carrying at least 12 hours) for the scholarship period.
- 3. Attain a minimum Grade Point Average of 2.0, or have a minimum SAT score of 850 (for initials applicants).

<u>First Time Requests</u>: Each initial (first-time) scholarship awarded will be determined according to criteria listed below:

- 1. Participation in Christian Education (i.e., Sunday School or Bible Study). (25 Points)
- 2. **Participation in Youth Ministry Spiritual Development** (i.e., Spiritual Retreat or Lock-in or Other Youth Activities). (20 Points)
- 3. Participation in Any of the Three Areas of Ministry or Service: (15 Points):
  - Youth Ministry Participation (i.e., Youth Choir, Youth Usher, Praise Dance, or Scouts)
  - Church-wide Ministry Participation with Adults (such as Urban Shelter Outreach, After Service Fellowship, Church and School Together, or Angel Tree)
  - Community Service (i.e., Emergency Preparedness, Habitat for Humanities, Agape Corner School, etc.).
- 4. **Regular Attendance at Sunday Morning Worship Service** (i.e., at least twice monthly). (20 **Points**)
- 5. **Essay** (20 Points) (Written essay must be completed; if not, the application will be denied).

**Written Essay.** Applicants must submit a typed, spiritually-based, autobiography outlining details of his/her salvation experience, his/her spiritual growth, and reasons for attending the educational institution of his/her choice. Accordingly, this typed autobiography should address how the student plans to incorporate continued spiritual growth and fellowship with a church in the college community.

<u>Continuing Students</u>. Submit an unofficial transcript denoting a 2.0 Grade Point Average (GPA) and class hours.

<u>Students Seeking a Second Degree</u>. Students seeking a second degree will not be considered. Second degree students are those who have already received a bachelor's degree from an undergraduate program.

**Special Students.** Special students will not be considered (e.g., students who are not pursing a degree or those who have not declared a major).

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Only those students who have been formally or provisionally admitted to a college or university will be considered.

Each scholarship is awarded for one academic school year and must be reapplied for by the student. Scholarships may be awarded at a reduced rate over the course of four years. Scholarship money will be distributed based upon available funds and the number of student applicants.

The criteria described above forms the baseline for selection.

### GENERAL GUIDELINES

### **Application Process**

The application process is as follows:

- 1. A Scholarship Application (including all reference material) must be turned into the church office by the published deadline date. Any applications turned in after this date <u>will not</u> be considered for scholarship funds for the upcoming academic year.
- 2. Unofficial transcripts are needed for college enrollment and verification of High School Diploma. The Committee will receive Unofficial Transcripts (those mailed directly to the Committee at the Church). All transcripts must be received by the deadline.

### **Information Handling**

All information submitted to the Scholarship Committee is considered privileged and confidential and is intended solely for use by the committee. Any other use of this material is prohibited. At the end of the process, the names of recipients will be published in the White Rock Newsletter, and student/parents will receive written notification by mail.

#### **Scholarship Committee**

The Scholarship Committee is composed of members of the White Rock Baptist Church who volunteer to serve. When a relative of a member of the Committee applies for a scholarship, the Committee member will excuse themselves from the selection process.

#### **Application Review and Submission**

Please review your application to be certain you have provided all requested information. When completed, please mail or deliver your application to:

White Rock Baptist Church 3400 Fayetteville Street Durham, NC 27707

Attn: Scholarship Committee

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ALL applications <u>MUST be</u> received on or before the deadline published each year. Any application received after the deadline will not be considered for any scholarship funds this year.

## Any questions should be referred to the Scholarship Committee

#### GENERAL GUIDELINES CONTINUED

- 1. The Scholarship Committee shall consider all qualified applications without regard to race, gender, or age and schedule applicant(s) interviews as appropriate.
- 2. The chairperson of the Scholarship Committee shall notify all students completing an application for scholarship funds of the decision of the Scholarship Committee.
- 3. Notification of the awards shall be in writing.
- 4. Funding for scholarships will be generated from two sources: Funds budgeted by White Rock Baptist Church and/or gifts designated to the Scholarship Fund. In order for a designated gift to be accepted for distribution, it must be non-restrictive, i.e., no gift designated for a specific student will be accepted. White Rock Baptist Church will cooperate with all Internal Revenue Service regulations.
- 5. The candidate will submit a transcript indicating a grade point average (GPA) of no less than a 2.0 on a 4.0 point scale, with no grade lower than a "C" in the two previous semesters.
- 6. The Scholarship Committee may take into consideration any factors and unique circumstances which might qualify an applicant for a scholarship. Among these, but not limited to, may include the applicant's spiritual achievement, ministry involvement, financial need, academic abilities, extracurricular involvement, course of study, and chosen profession. The Scholarship Committee, at its sole discretion, may attach whatsoever weight it deems appropriate to any/ all of the factors they consider in awarding a scholarship.
- 7. The Scholarship Committee will make its decision by a committee majority and its decision shall be considered final.
- 8. Submit application(s) and all supporting documents to White Rock Baptist Church, ATTN: Scholarship Committee, 3400 Fayetteville Street, Durham, NC 27707, no later than the deadline specified in the Application Process.

### LATE OR INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED

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