******EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**

**INNOVATION SCHOLARSHIP**

*The Saipan Chamber of Commerce Innovation Scholarship**is available to high school graduates and on-going college students from the island of Saipan seeking higher education in a two or four-year institution majoring in science, technology, engineering, math, or business-related fields of study****.***

**CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

**Eligibility Requirements:**

* + Completed application form
	+ Official high school or college transcript showing all semesters attended with grade point average **(minimum 3.5 GPA required)**
	+ Copy of ACT or SAT scores **(failure to submit either will result in a lower overall score)**
	+ Acceptance Letter to the institution chosen to attend. (**Attach class schedule if available.)**
	+ Proof of residency. **(Must be a resident of the SAIPAN more than 1 year of application.)**
	+ Two signed letters of recommendation from an educator or business employer/mentor
	+ Listing of extra-curricular activities and examples of leadership within the community **(Please used attached form)**
	+ Essay of *no more* than 1,000 words: **“Name an important issue on our island you are passionate about and how (your major) will help to pacify this issue.”**

**Application Deadline:**

 All application and supporting documents must be submitted in its entirety to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office, located on the fourth floor of Marianas Business Plaza, Suite #413 in Susupe or emailed to coordinator2@saipanchamber.com, no later than

 **5:00 p.m., Wednesday, May 05, 2021**

Late and/or incomplete applications will not be accepted. The final selection process will require qualifying applicants to attend a mandatory personal interview with a panel of judges.

**Saipan Chamber of Commerce**

**Educational Scholarship Fund**

**Letter to the Student**

Dear Student:

One of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce’s core missions is to promote the general health and welfare of our islands. We realize that the future success of the CNMI rests on today’s youth. You will eventually be leaders in our business, government, and non-profit sectors. Our collective success depends on the diligent pursuit of postsecondary education by our future leaders.

We recognize that the cost of postsecondary education is substantial. It is for this reason that the Saipan Chamber of Commerce continues the tradition of our Educational Scholarship Fund. Ten thousand dollars in scholarships will be awarded to deserving students who have met the criteria presented, and preferential considerations for the betterment of our workforce and economic needs.

In order to be considered for this scholarship, you must meet the corresponding criteria and complete the attached application form to its entirety. Failure to complete all requirements may result in automatic disqualification.

We encourage you to review the all materials attached and complete all necessary steps to apply for our scholarship. The deadline for submitting your application materials to the Saipan Chamber office (Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 413) is **Wednesday, May 26, 2021.**

Each application goes through a three-part selection process. Applicants will be notified of their application process at each stage. The final selection process requires a mandatory personal interview with each finalist. Scholarship recipients will be presented their award at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce General Membership Meeting for 2021 fall semester tuition.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Chamber office at 234-7150 or email us at coordinator2@saipanchamber.com.

Sincerely,

Education & Workforce Development Committee
Saipan Chamber of Commerce

**EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**

***Mission, Rules, Process***

**Mission of the Scholarship Fund**

One of the Chamber’s goals is to promote and enable postsecondary education and to publicly acknowledge and reward the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of deserving students. The Saipan Chamber of Commerce Educational Scholarship Fund provides one-time monetary awards of at least $1,000 each to students in the following categories:

* **Chamber Education Scholarship:** High School Graduates and On-Going Students attending college at Northern Marianas College, Saipan.
* **Pellegrino Vocational Education Scholarship:** Saipan residents enrolled in or attending local or off-island vocational institutions, with the intent to return to the CNMI.
* **Innovation Scholarship:** Saipan residents pursuing higher education in 4- year institutions majoring in science, technology, engineering, math and business-related fields of study with the intentions of returning to the CNMI workforce.

Each student should demonstrate academic and personal excellence. All applicants must be accepted or enrolled in a two- year or four-year institution, or in a vocational education course. Scholarship recipients will receive a one-time award of at least $1,000 to help defray the cost of their postsecondary education. Payments are made directly to the educational institution on behalf of the student and may not be used for any other purpose.

**Mission of the Selection Committee**

The Committee seeks a combination of academic and personal excellence in individuals who may one day unselfishly contribute to our island workforce and community.

**Basis of Consideration**

* Academic Excellence – an expression of strong intellectual curiosity and perseverance; proven record of achievement through standardized test and grade point average results.
* Extracurricular Success – an expression of dedication and devotion to one’s passion in life; the expression of sympathy for and protection of the disadvantaged.
* Leadership Force – an expression of moral force of character, strong instincts to lead, and of interest in one’s fellow beings, as well as a desire to nurture fellowship.

**Selection Process**

* Application and accompanying materials must be submitted in their entirety by the deadline. Incomplete applications will be disqualified.
* Eligibility requirements must be met.
* Applicant may be selected for a personal interview with the panel of judges selected by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Education Committee.

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**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

**\*\* Please type or print legibly in black ink. Do not leave any items blank. \*\***

**Select One:**  **High School Graduate On-Going College Student**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Male\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Female\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Secondary Ph: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Intended Field of Study, Year in College: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

College or University now attending: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

College(s) or University (ies) applied to: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied to other scholarships or grant? If so, how many: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I understand that the Saipan Chamber of Commerce is awarding a scholarship to a student who is currently accepted at or attending Northern Marianas College on Saipan. I understand this is a one-time monetary scholarship given to a successful applicant to defray the costs of postsecondary education and is granted at the complete discretion of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. I also understand the requirements that are expected of each applicant. I have fulfilled the application requirements and have attached all required documents in order to be considered for this scholarship. I understand and agree that any scholarship funds awarded to me will be sent directly to the institution which I am currently enrolled and attending, and that those funds will be used by that institution to reduce the amount I owe for tuition, room, board or other related educational costs or fees.

I further understand and agree that if such awarded scholarship funds are not utilized by July 1 of the calendar year following the date of the award, I forfeit any and all rights to the awarded funds, and any and all such funds shall remain the property of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature Date



**Saipan Chamber of Commerce**

**Educational Scholarship Fund- Extra Curricular & Leadership Roles Form**

Please use only this form to report extracurricular and leadership roles within the past four years in order of importance.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date:**  | **Organization/Initiative:**  | **Your role/activities:**  | **Number of Hours (Approx.)** |
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