



Pennsylvania Equine Council Scholarship

Guidelines & Information for Applicants

Eligibility

- Applicants must be a youth or student with a current individual or family membership in the Pennsylvania Equine Council (PEC).
- Applicants must have been accepted to a college, university, community college or institute of higher learning. (*any academic program*)
- Applicants should be active participants in the equine industry and committed to future involvement in the industry.

Application Process

- The application, guidelines and selection criteria are available from:
 - ❖ PEC website: www.pennsylvaniaequinecouncil.com
 - ❖ Youth page of the PEC website at: <http://pecyouth.webs.com/>
 - ❖ PEC home office
- Applications must be received as noted on the application by **June 1**.
- ***Submission of application by e-mail is preferable.***
- The completed application must include:
 - ❖ Application form
 - ❖ Three letters of reference: (cannot be from a relative)
 - Two from an adult or equine industry professional (adult leader, PEC member, trainer, etc.)
 - One from a community leader (4-H leader, teacher, pastor, coach, etc.)
 - ❖ Personal statement about influence of equine activities on career goals. (no more than 500 words)
 - ❖ Letter of acceptance from college, university, community college, etc.
- Interviews *may* be conducted for top candidates (by phone or in person).

Selection Criteria

Applicants will be evaluated on: participation in PEC programs/activities, involvement in equine organizations/activities, participation in youth leadership programs, personal statement, application form, reference letters, community service and interview (if conducted).
See score sheet for details.

Selection Process

- A panel of volunteer judges will be responsible for selecting award recipients.
- Judges will be selected by the youth committee and will include persons representing a variety of equine disciplines and backgrounds.
- Judges will score and rank applicants according to stated criteria. Highest scoring applicant will be awarded the scholarship.
- Applicants must receive a minimum score of 85 points to be eligible for a scholarship.

Award Amount

- Funding for the scholarship varies from year to year and is contingent upon availability of funds. The amount available will be determined by the PEC Board with a minimum amount of \$500.

Award Presentation

- Award to be presented at the Pennsylvania Horse World Expo or other PEC event.
- Scholarship recipients will receive a certificate and congratulatory letter at the VIP reception at the Horse Expo or other PEC event.
- The scholarship check will be presented to the youth *after* the youth has submitted his/her first semester grades of a 3.0 GPA higher and is enrolled for the next semester (send an official copy of selected class schedule for the coming semester).
- The scholarship check will be made out to the youth **and** the college or university.