



EDWARDSBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

69410 Section Street • Edwardsburg, MI 49112 • Phone: 269-663-1010 • Fax: 269-663-6485

Christopher Stephenson Memorial Scholarship

Statement of Purpose:

The Edwardsburg Public Schools Foundation has been honored to be chosen as the vehicle to oversee the Christopher Stephenson Memorial Scholarship. Christopher's family and friends have generously endowed the Foundation with funds to offer a \$1,000.00 scholarship on an annual basis to a graduating senior who meets the criteria and who plans to enter post-secondary careers. Christopher Stephenson was a 1997 graduate of Edwardsburg Public Schools. Christopher attended Southwestern Michigan College for one year prior to moving to Florida in 1998. He began his career at Ring Power Equipment, a CAT company, where he worked in the Parts Department for several years. He was most recently employed at Toyota Lift managing the Ocala and Orlando branches. In June of 2014, he started a Tow Truck business with an acquaintance in Tampa, FL Christopher was an avid sports fan and loved the University of Michigan. He also became a Tampa Bay Buccaneer fan during his life in Florida. He was a member of the Tampa Bay Rough Riders, an organization active in many children's charities in the Tampa Bay area. As a student of Edwardsburg, Christopher was an avid athlete who participated in many sports, including football, basketball and baseball. What set Christopher apart was his enthusiasm as a participant for his team and teammates. Christopher also contributed as manager of many teams when the opportunities were available. His positive attitude, love of sports and his encouragement of teammates made Christopher an asset to teams. He was a true team player, supporting each classmate and respecting coaches.

Christopher Stephenson Memorial Scholarship Criteria:

In preparing the scholarship application, please pay close attention to the following criteria and factors for consideration:

- Scholarship candidates will be evaluated for embodying the ideals and values of sportsmanship: honesty, integrity, civility, selflessness, kindness, and compassion.
- While off-field activities and community service are applauded, scholarship candidates will be evaluated for their approach and character in competition. Off-field activities and community service are not a major factor into the selection consideration, and therefore, should not be the main focus of an applicant's essay or letters of recommendation.
- The Stephenson Scholarship is not awarded based on financial need. Applicants should not reference their financial situation or socioeconomic background. Applicants who do not adhere to this guideline will be disqualified from consideration for the scholarship.
- Greatest consideration will be given to applicants who demonstrate a track record of sportsmanship and respect directed at opponents, officials and the spirit of the game. Applicants and their letter of recommendation should cite specific examples in which the scholarship candidate displayed extraordinary selflessness and kindness to another individual. While encouraging and helping those within one's team is admirable, the scholarship committee seeks candidates who transcend expectations for how one should honor the game and treat those outside their circle in competition.
- Athletic performance (wins and other statistics) is not a factor in the scholarship selection.
- Those connected to athletic teams, such as student managers, also are eligible for the scholarship should their leadership and behavior represent an extraordinary standard and model for all in sports to follow.

General Guidelines:

- The \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior of Edwardsburg High School. Applicants cannot be part of the Early Middle College program offered through the Edwardsburg High School.



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- Scholarship applicants must be enrolled full-time in a college, university or post-secondary vocational school for the upcoming fall term. The scholarship award will be paid to the institution and is to be used for tuition, room and board or other related college/university expenses.
- The Scholarship Committee of the Edwardsburg Public Schools Foundation will decide who is to receive the scholarship based on the attached application information.
- The recipient must exhibit academic improvement in their high school career to qualify for the scholarship.
- Application Deadline: **April 15th**
- To download the EPS Scholarship Foundation Application for completion, go to www.edwardsburgschoolsfoundation.org/grantsandscholarships.

EDWARDSBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION
CHRISTOPHER STEPHENSON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

This application can be opened online from the website www.edwardsburgpublicschoolsfoundation.org as a fillable PDF document. It is to be completed and printed for submission to the high school guidance office by the deadline of April 15 in any given year. (If April 15 is a day when school is not in session, the application will be accepted on the first day school resumes, following the closure.) A typed/computer generated application is preferred, but neatly completed handwritten applications are acceptable. The applicant must follow the scholarship guidelines which are posted separately from this application form.

STUDENT BACKGROUND

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Email address _____

EDUCATION: College, University or Vocational School enrolled in for the fall semester and degree pursued.

ACTIVITIES: Write a brief summary of school activities and community service in which you have been involved during your high school years. If more space is needed, please attach a separate sheet.

WORK EXPERIENCE: If you have held a summer or after-school job, please provide the name of the employer and briefly explain the job held.

IN THE FOLLOWING SPACE PROVIDED, PLEASE SUBMIT:

An essay of 200 to 300 words that references the following:

- What goals did you set and achieve in high school?
- What are your future goals/career aspirations and how do you plan to achieve them?
- Why is this particular scholarship important to you?
- Refer to the Christopher Stephenson application guidelines and address additional topics.

ESSAY:

PLEASE ATTACH:

- A copy of your grade transcripts from high school and for any college classes you already have taken.
- A letter of recommendation from one athletic coach.
- Names and phone numbers of two references we may contact.

PHOTO RELEASE: I hereby grant the Edwardsburg Public Schools Foundation my consent to use, in whole or in part, my photographic image as submitted for Edwardsburg Public Schools yearbook. In regards to the use of this photographic image, I hereby waive any right I may have to monetary compensation, or to inspect or approve the finished product. I have read and understand the conditions as stated above.

CONFIRMATION: I attest to the fact that I have not been expelled or convicted of any felonies during my high school career. I affirm that the information contained herein is true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM AND OTHER REQUIRED INFORMATION TO THE EDWARDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE OFFICE. Application Deadline: April 15