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FACT SHEET FOR APPLICANTS FOR A COLORADO MASONS' BENEVOLENT FUND VOCATIONAL GRANT

PURPOSE: These grants are intended to provide financial assistance to deserving students. They are not intended to cover all expenses. In your planning, you should not assume that a grant has been awarded until you are officially notified by the grant administrator or the grant committee. We expect decisions to be made and notifications to be sent out late in May 2019.

AWARD: Award amounts are not determined by the Board until at least February each year. Last year, we awarded one-time grants of \$1000. These grants are intended to assist in obtaining vocational skill from an accredited vocational training program within the State of Colorado. The program must be accredited by a recognized accreditation committee. Grants are awarded without reference to race, religion, sex, national origin or Masonic relationship.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICANTS:

1. You must be a graduating Colorado Public High School Senior.
2. You must be a citizen of the United States of America.
3. You must attend an vocational institution within the State of Colorado.
4. Completed applications must be **submitted by April 15, 2024** to be considered.
5. After completing your application and before sending it to our PO Box, an interview with the lodge assigned to your high school must be completed. To arrange for the interview use the Contact Form on our webpage. See below.

CHECKLIST: (Please arrange your application packet in this order.)

1. Complete all four pages of the application form. It must be signed by both applicant and parent/guardian.
2. Write a personal letter which includes the following topics:
 - a. Your goals and objectives for the future.
 - b. Why you require financial assistance.
 - c. Why you feel you should be selected for our scholarship.
3. A grade transcript covering your entire high school career, including your GPA and class rank.
4. A letter of acceptance from the university, college or institution of higher learning listed on the application.
5. A copy of the Student Aid Report (SAR) from your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For 2024 the Dept of Education is having issues supplying the Student Aid Report. The Committee will accept a copy of the page of the parent/guardian's tax form showing the AGI (Adjusted Gross Income). Feel free to redact the form to delete social security #s etc.

6. Four letters of recommendation. (Letters should be from personal acquaintances, employers, clergy, or teachers, preferably who have known you or your family over a period of time. It is best not to have all the letters from teachers. Letters will be reviewed by the Lodge interview committee.
7. You must arrange for a personal interview with members of the Masonic Lodge assigned to your high school. On our website page (www.cmbfa.org), a contact form is on the page. There is with a drop down to choose your school. Fill out the rest of the form and click 'submit' to make contact with the Lodge assigned to your school. A local lodge representative will contact you to set up an interview. Your application and all required documents must be available for review at your interview. The Lodge will send an interview letter to the selection committee separately.
8. Following the interview, please submit your complete application and required documents to:

Colorado Masons' Benevolent Fund Association

Vocational Grant Administrator

PO Box 703

Westminster, CO 80036-0703

For 2024, the completed application form with all accompanying materials must be submitted together in order no later than April 15, 2024 to be considered. Please do not submit any photographs. Any photographs received will be destroyed before the application is submitted to the selection committee.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Applicants will be advised if they were selected or not. Notices will normally be by email. Selections are not usually completed until mid to late May.

All Grant money will be paid through and managed by the Student Aid Office of the vocational institution.

Your application packet will not be returned to you; in the event that you are not a selected recipient, all documents are destroyed at the end of our committee's selection process.

Please refer any questions regarding the preparation of the application material to your high school counselor, or feel free to contact our office. Our preferred contact method is by e-mail at education@cmbfa.org, or you can contact via the information on the letterhead.