



James R. Ryan Family Foundation Middle School Scholarship

HISTORY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The James Raymond Ryan Family Foundation Middle School Scholarship was initiated in 2004 by Dr. James R. Ryan (1936-2006). Dr. James R. Ryan (who was the brother of former Gull Lake Community Schools Superintendent Tom Ryan) was a highly respected Orthopedic Oncology expert. He practiced in Detroit and Kalamazoo and, in later years, made his home in the Gull Lake Community School District. Dr. Ryan demonstrated a dedication to education throughout his entire life and his generous gift will assist future students in their efforts to realize their academic potential.

This annual scholarship, of up to \$10,000 per year, is renewable over a four-year period, to a maximum of \$40,000 (for recipients selected beginning with the 2014-2015 academic year). The scholarship is offered to Gull Lake Middle School eighth grade students who have demonstrated potential for academic success in preparation for college attendance. The applicants must demonstrate financial need.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

CRITERIA TO APPLY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP:

- The applicant must be a Gull Lake eighth grade student, and resident of the Gull Lake Community School District, who is planning to enroll in an accredited four-year college or university as a full-time student, after graduation from Gull Lake High School. Enrollment in college must occur in the fall immediately following the recipient's high school graduation.
- The applicant must have attained a minimum of a 3.5 cumulative GPA at the end of the second marking period of eighth grade. If awarded the scholarship, the recipient's cumulative GPA through completion of eighth grade must not fall below 3.5 or the applicant's scholarship eligibility will be permanently revoked and will be given to the designated alternate.
- The applicant's family must demonstrate financial need. Financial need questions which may be considered include:
 - ✓ Does the applicant qualify for free or reduced lunch?
 - ✓ Does the family income fall below the median family income in Michigan?
 - ✓ Would the applicant be a first-generation college student (parents did not attain a college degree)?
 - ✓ Does the applicant have a disabled parent or sibling, (which may put more financial burden on an otherwise middle-class family)?
 - ✓ Does the applicant have a parent in the military?
- The applicant must demonstrate good citizenship, high moral character, and a good work ethic prior to and throughout the period of the scholarship.

CRITERIA FOR CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY IN HIGH SCHOOL:

If awarded the scholarship, the recipient must continue to attend Gull Lake Community Schools, continue to reside in the Gull Lake Community School District, and graduate from Gull Lake High School. During high school, the recipient must have a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative GPA at the end of their freshman year of high school and every marking period thereafter, or the recipient's scholarship eligibility will be permanently revoked and will be given to the designated alternate.

CRITERIA FOR CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY IN COLLEGE:

For the scholarship to be renewed while attending college, the recipient must maintain a 2.5 annual GPA as a full-time college student with each semester (or marking period) grades sent to the Gull Lake Community Schools Foundation by the student as soon as they are available.