



The Community Foundation
of Western North Carolina

LEROY RIPPER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Fact Sheet

DESCRIPTION

This scholarship was established by the family and friends of Leroy Ripper to honor his many contributions to Cherokee and Clay Counties. Mr. Ripper was a native of Ridgewood, New Jersey, who made his home in Cherokee County for 30 years, working for Owenby Manufacturing, and then founding Peachtree Industries. He was a member of the Andrews Lions Club, president of the Cherokee-Clay Counties United Way, and a member of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church. Mr. Ripper also contributed to his community as founder and president of the Peachtree Volunteer Fire Department, and through service to the boards of Good Shepherd, IOI (Industrial Opportunities, Inc.) and the Brasstown Concert Association. Before he passed away, Mr. Ripper directed the establishment of this scholarship to support students in Cherokee and Clay Counties, and to inspire them to lives of commitment to their community, leadership and service.

ELIGIBILITY

The Leroy Ripper Scholarship Fund provides scholarship awards to graduating public high school seniors whose primary residence is in Cherokee County or in Clay County. Those who attend the NC School of Science and Mathematics, the UNC School of the Arts High School, Tri-County Early College High School, or a home school registered with the NC Department of Non-Public Education are also eligible, as long as they are legal residents of one of the two counties mentioned above. Recipients must plan to attend an accredited U.S. college, university, community college, or vocational school full-time.

The Community Foundation scholarships will be awarded without regard to age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religious belief, or any other characteristic protected by law.

SELECTION CRITERIA

One (1) one-time \$1,000 scholarship is available to a graduating senior whose primary residence is in Cherokee or Clay County, and who demonstrates:

- academic promise (measured by class rank, GPA, SAT scores);
- participation in community service;
- leadership skills;
- good character.

Applicants need not be top of the class, but rather show academic promise, a commitment to community service, and possess leadership skills. Preference will be given to those with demonstrated financial need.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply, students must complete an application available in the office of their guidance/college counselor. The application with required attachments (see application checklist) must be returned to the high school guidance department on or before the deadline stated on the application.

ESSAY OR EQUIVALENT

An essay is not required for this scholarship.

SELECTION PROCESS

All applications received will be forwarded by the school's guidance office to The Community Foundation. A Scholarship Committee of The Community Foundation will review all applications and select a recipient, based upon the stated criteria. All finalists will receive written notification, and the recipient will be announced in May pending approval by The Community Foundation's Board of Directors.

PAYMENT OF AWARDS

Payment of scholarship awards will be made directly to the school at the beginning of the freshman year.

The recipient will receive a payment designation form from the Foundation in the summer. Payments will be issued after the Foundation receives the completed form, but no earlier than the end of July. Awards are for the full academic year, and as such are split between the fall and spring terms.

Students must notify The Community Foundation of the receipt of any other educational grants or scholarship assistance as soon as the student receives notification of those awards.

The scholarship recipient must provide The Community Foundation with an official transcript from the school she attended at the end of the school year for which a scholarship is received. An official transcript is one obtained from the school (not online) which bears an official school seal.

**DOWNLOAD THE FAR WEST SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION,
OR CONTACT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT FOR AN APPLICATION,
OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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