CATEGORY 1- RESIDENT/PARTICIPANT
GRADUATING SENIOR APPLICATION FORM

The Southwest Regional Council NAHRO Scholarship Program provides scholarship opportunities to families that reside in, work with, or who otherwise receive housing benefits from one of the member agencies of the Council. The SWRC NAHRO annually awards scholarships totaling more than $10,000.00. Scholarship awards are available to public housing residents, participants in rental assistance or similar programs, both heads of household and other family members, and children of staff working for a member agency.

Scholarship Application with accompanying documentation and information must be submitted directly to:

Southwest NAHRO Scholarship Program
2375 Rodgers Rd.
Olney, TX 76374
For questions or information contact:
Sherri McDade s.mcdade@dentonhousingauthority.com 940-383-1504

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Thursday, March 15, 2012

Category 1- Graduating Senior – Resident or Participant: Scholarships are available in three areas to graduating seniors who are residents and receive direct housing benefits from one of the member agencies of the Council. The first scholarship is a $4,000 four-year scholarship awarded to a graduating senior, with $1,000 payable each year over a four-year period.

A second, $1,000 one-time scholarship honoring Philip W. Miller is available to graduating seniors who are residents of a public housing agency.

The third area includes scholarship awards of a minimum of $100 to resident graduating seniors who successfully apply to the program, who attained a four-year 3.0 GPA and an 18 on the ACT. *Actual amount and number will vary according to the number of students applying and funds available.*

The scholarships have been established by the membership of Southwest NAHRO to provide the opportunity for students associated with public assisted housing to take advantage of post high school educational opportunities that otherwise may not be possible. Any unused portion of a scholarship may, at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee, be awarded a student exhibiting outstanding accomplishment.

Eligibility Requirements

1. The applicant and their family must reside or receive direct housing benefits for the entire senior year (and at least 12 months prior to the application deadline) through any housing program administered by any agency that is a member in good standing of Southwest NAHRO.
2. The applicant must: have maintained an overall 3.0 grade point average for the total of his/her high school career, have earned an ACT score of 18 , and commit himself or herself to enrolling in a college or vocational training program beyond high school graduation.
3. Applications submitted that are not in accordance with the instructions will not be considered for judging.

The program is competitive and awards are based on academic achievement, extra curricular activities, family need and community involvement.

Scholarship Payments:

In an attempt to expedite scholarship payments, eliminate lost payments, and to make a greater impact on the students as to who is providing the scholarship funds, SWNAHRO has established specific scholarship payment procedures. For one-year scholarship recipients, the program coordinator will obtain enrollment information from the student; after which a check in the scholarship amount will be mailed to the housing

authority that sponsored the student. The agency is then asked to make the presentation of the check to the student and his or her family at a Board Meeting or some other appropriate event.

For those recipients of four-year scholarships, the procedure will be the same for the first year. That payment will be followed by an annual payment of $1,000 for the next three years provided the student maintains a 2.5 average. The student must submit the grades from the previous year, plus some evidence that he/she is enrolled in the then current fall semester, after which a check will be forwarded to the housing agency to present to the recipient. At this time, the agency may want to recognize the student for continuing success.

Certification: The housing agency must certify that the applicant is a resident of the agency. The agency must also certify that it is a member in good standing of SWRC NAHRO.

Definitions: A graduating senior of a resident family (Category 1) is a high school graduate of the current program year who is a member and resides with a family, who resides in or has received direct housing benefits from a SWRC NAHRO member agency for the twelve months prior to the application date.

Scholarship Categories

I. Category 1- Scholarship for Resident Families – $7,500 Total as follows:

a) 1 - $4,000 Four-year scholarship to a graduating senior, payable $1,000 per year over four years.

b) 1 - $1,000 One-year Philip W. Miller Academic Scholarship to a graduating senior.

c) Scholarship awards of a minimum of $100 to resident graduating seniors who attain a four-year 3.0 GPA and an 18 on the ACT. Actual amount will vary according to the number of students applying and funds available.

If there are not enough qualified applicants in any one category, the funds from that category will be transferred to other categories that have more qualified applicants. The judging and application forms will be the same in all categories and the students will compete against one another for the top award.

POINT SYSTEM FOR EVALUATION OF CATEGORY 1 RESIDENT/PARTICIPANT GRADUATING SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP

CATEGORY	POINTS
Grades (Completed by Committee Chairman)	150
ACT Scores (Completed by Committee Chairman)	50
Academic Achievement/Extra Curricular Activities	100
Community Activities	75
Essay	100
General Overall Performance	25
Total Available Points	**500**

JUDGING

a) Scholarship applications will be evaluated and judged on two levels. The Committee Chair will review grade point averages and determine the point total for grades and ACT scores. A panel of judges representing the States in the Region will evaluate the students' academic achievements, extra-curricular and community activity involvement. The panel of judges will also score the essay, financial need, and determine the overall performance.

b) In judging the scholarship applications the judges should consider all aspects of the application that may have an impact on each judging category. One would perhaps consider an applicant's part-time and/or after school job record (with private enterprise business) as a possible balancing value for an outstanding

student who worked instead of participated in extra-curricular activities. Non-government jobs should only be considered because they are rarely political and a reflect a student's self-determination as compared to say a JTPA or CETA job, which often has political attachments.

c) The letters of recommendation submitted by each student should be considered in the evaluation of the extra-curricular activities as well as the community activities. Emphasis in evaluation of the letters should be given to the position of the writer, the obvious familiarity (or lack thereof) of the writer with the student themselves, and the overall quality of the recommendation. One needs to separate the good intentions of the writer from the quality and validity of the recommendation.

d) The general overall performance evaluation is the "gut feeling" of the judge with regard to the excellence of the student. A general review of transcripts and ACT scores should be included in this evaluation.

SUBMISSION

Completed applications and essay should be mailed to:

Southwest NAHRO Scholarship Program
2375 Rodgers Rd.
Olney, TX 76374

2012 SOUTHWEST NAHRO SCHOLARSHIP
CATEGORY 1- RESIDENT/PARTICIPANT
GRADUATING SENIOR APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Name_____ **Phone (_____)**_____

Mailing Address_____

City: _____**State:**_____ **Zip:**_____ **Gender: M**_____ **F**_____

Name of Housing Agency and City: _____ **Age**_____

Social Security #_____ **Graduation Date:** _____

Academic Major(s) will pursue, or are pursuing: _____

College or Vocational School you plan to attend: _____

Summarize your academic accomplishments, extra-curricular activities, (e.g. awards, honor societies):

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

List all scholarships awarded to you and the amount of each:

_____

_____

_____

List the community activities in which you have taken part (e.g. church groups, community service organizations, etc.):

_____

_____

_____

_____

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List hobbies and any special interests:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Indicate any jobs which you have had (full or part-time):

_____

_____

_____

_____

List two personal references (name, addresses, and phone number):

_____

_____

_____

_____

Applications must include the following additional materials:

1. **An official (stamped or signed) high school transcript which includes all high school grades through the first semester of the senior year.**

2. **A copy of ACT or SAT test score results, if not on official transcript.**

3. **<u>Two</u> letters of recommendation from community leaders such as teachers, coaches, church leaders, employers, etc. (adults that know you well and can attest to your character, work habits, etc.)**

4. **An essay on why he or she has chosen to pursue the area of study chosen, and what influenced the applicant's choice of that area of study. (500 words or less) <u>ESSAYS MUST BE TYPED</u>**

5. **A photograph to be used in a slide show presentation if selected.**

Use additional sheets if more room is required.

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MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE CEO/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/ADMINISTRATOR

1. RESIDENTS OF PUBLIC HOUSING, SECTION 8 OR OTHER PARTICIPANTS

*I hereby certify that*_____ (applicant name) *is and has been a resident or participant in good standing in the* _____ (list one: public housing, section 8, other) *housing program administered by this agency since* _____ (date*). I also certify that the family income information below is accurate as of the last family certification on file and is equal to or less than HUD's "low income" limit for the family size and locality.*

2. FAMILY INFORMATION

Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Number of children in family living at home: _____ Single Parent Household: Yes_____ No_____

Total Household Income:

_____0-$15,000 _____$15,001- $30,000 _____$30,001-$45,000 _____$45,001 & above

Describe any special circumstances of financial or other need:

_____

_____

_____

AGENCY CERTIFICATION

*I hereby certify that this agency is a member in good standing of the*_____ *(state) Chapter NAHRO* <u>*and*</u> *Southwest NAHRO.*

Agency_____

Name of Executive Director_____

Address of Agency_____

Agency Telephone Number_____

_____ _____

Signature of CEO/Executive Director/Administrator Date

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

All applications for the 2012 Scholarship Program MUST be postmarked no later than March 15, 2012