

**Arete Scholarships
in memory of
Kevin J. Morsching**

Black Hills Area Community Foundation Guidelines & Procedures

I. Applicant/Recipient Eligibility Criteria for STM Scholarship

1. Applicants must be graduating seniors of St. Thomas More High School (STM).
2. Applicants must plan to attend an accredited, post-secondary educational institution.
3. Applicants must be involved in at least two sport, school, community, and/or church activities.
4. Applicants must submit a completed and signed scholarship application no later than March 15. A completed application includes the following:
 - a) Two letters of personal recommendation, including one from a teacher or school administrator and one from an adult who knows the applicant well. Under no circumstances may family members serve as references.
 - b) A written essay of no more than 250 words that describes how putting forth a best effort in school and extracurricular activities will benefit the applicant and the applicant's community in the future. The applicant also should describe his or her educational and career goals.
 - c) A copy of the applicant's official high school transcript.

II. Applicant/Recipient Eligibility Criteria for Post 22 Scholarship.

1. Applicants must be current participants in American Legion Post 22 Baseball program in Rapid City, South Dakota and must be a graduating high school senior or have graduated high school.
2. Applicants must plan to attend or be a student at an accredited college.
3. Applicants must have demonstrated to the coach and teammates: leadership, passion about the game of baseball, a desire to improve himself and others, a desire to be the best at his position, a commitment to be the hardest worker on the team and an interest in the team as whole.
4. Applicants must submit a completed and signed scholarship application and receive a personal recommendation from the head coach of the American Legion Post 22 Baseball program.

III. Applicant/Recipient Eligibility Criteria for South Dakota State University (SDSU) Scholarship.

Each Applicant must be current participant in men's collegiate baseball program at SDSU and must have completed one year of academic work at SDSU.

1. Applicants must be a current student at SDSU, Brookings, South Dakota
2. Applicants must have demonstrated to the coach and teammates: leadership, passion about the game of baseball, a desire to improve himself and others, a desire to be the best at his position, a commitment to be the hardest worker on the team and an interest in the team as whole.
3. Applicants must submit a completed and signed scholarship application including their Student ID # and receive a personal recommendation from the head coach of the SDSU men's baseball program.

IV. The Selection Panel will consider the following criteria:

- a. The applicant's effort in academic work and activities, including school, employment, church and/or community. Class rank or GPA shall not be a primary criterion. Rather, the Panel will give preference to students who have made a sincere effort to learn and to participate in and serve their school and community.
- b. The applicant's written essay.
- c. Personal recommendations regarding the applicant.
- d. The applicant's financial need, including other scholarships and assistance received or likely to be received.

The Selection Panel may establish additional criteria to ensure orderly administration of the selection process.

V. The Scholarship Awards

1. Black Hills Area Community Foundation (BHACF) will determine the amount and number of awards.
2. Scholarship payment will be made directly to the educational institution, payable to the school and the student, to defray the cost of tuition, books, and other direct educational expenses. Payment will be made upon receipt of a request form from the recipient, along with a copy of an official class schedule. It is anticipated that awards will be used to reduce the student's unmet needs and that the educational institution will not reduce the amount of grants previously or simultaneously awarded to the student unless required by state or federal law. The scholarship may, however, reduce the size of the student loans made available by the institution.
3. Should a recipient fail, for any reason, to enroll in an institution as described above in the fall following his or her high school graduation, an alternate may be chosen.

VI. Selection Panel

1. BHACF's Board of Directors will appoint an Advisory Committee to recommend award recipients and two alternates. Members of the Kevin J. Morsching Family may serve on the Selection Panel; however, these individuals, their family members and appointees, and other related parties may not comprise the majority of the Selection Panel nor serve as its chairperson, who also will be appointed by BHACF's Board of Directors.
2. Using the above criteria, the Panel will review applications submitted on the scholarship application form.
3. The Panel will make its selection on a Recommendation Form supplied by BHACF.

VII. The Black Hills Area Community Foundation shall:

1. Design a scholarship application form.
2. Send information about the scholarship to STM, Post 22, SDSU Baseball program. Application forms may be reproduced.
3. Respond to inquiries from applicants.
4. Prepare award recommendations for the BHACF Board of Directors, based on Selection Panel recommendations.

Schedule B- Guidelines & Procedures

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5. Prepare an award certificate, collect appropriate forms to ensure post-secondary enrollment, and make scholarship payments to the accredited institution.

VIII. Timetable

January	BHACF makes application information and forms available.
March 30	Application deadline for STM Scholarship.
March-April	Selection Panel meets, recommends recipients, and submits a signed Recommendation Form to BHACF.
May	BHACF Board of Directors meets and reviews recommendations.
June-September	Applications for Post 22 and SDSU Scholarships are considered by the Selection Committee and approved by BHACF. BHACF makes initial payment to educational institution after receiving appropriate papers from students.