

## **Laraway Community Consolidated School District 70C**

### **Student Scholarship Program**

#### **2013-2014 School Year**

The Laraway Board of Education desires to morally and financially demonstrate support for students who are showing the initiative to pursue opportunities to expand their learning experiences, by participating in wholesome extra-curricular programs, conferences, camps, clinics, classes, workshops, etc. that occur beyond the regular school day, i.e. evenings, weekends, during the winter, spring and/or summer breaks. This scholarship is intended to more heavily emphasize the academic pursuits of students.

It is sound fiscal planning and governance for the Laraway Board of Education to establish a total exposure to how much money may be spent during a given fiscal year for student scholarships. Accordingly, the Laraway Community Consolidated School District 70-C Board of Education has established and budgeted for a Student Scholarship Program, in the total amount of \$3000 for the 2013-2014 school year.

The scholarship year will apply to each fiscal year, i.e. July 1 through June 30. Student applications for scholarship funds will be considered on a first-come-first-serve basis. In fairness, the scholarship year will be divided into two halves, i.e. events that occur during July through December, and events that occur during January through June. One half of the pool of funds (\$1500) will be allocated to each half year. Any unspent funds from the first half of the year will be rolled into the second half of the year. When the annual pool of \$3000 is expended, no more student applications will be considered. Any unspent scholarship money each year will be infused back into the school district's Education Fund. As warranted, by a majority vote, the full Board of Education may choose to increase or decrease the Student Scholarship Program fund in May of each year, in preparation for the upcoming fiscal year.

Student Scholarship Program applications will be considered by a sub-committee of the Board of Education, and this sub-committee will submit their recommendation for approval to the full Board of Education. The sub-committee will be appointed by the Board President, and be comprised of no more than two (2) Board members. (For the 2013-2014 school year Mrs. Fleet and Mr. Washington have been appointed to the Board sub-committee.) If a Board member on the sub-committee should have a conflict of interest, he/she shall excuse him/herself and the Board President appoint a temporary replacement in order to achieve the most objective consideration of that specific scholarship application. The decisions of the full Board shall be considered final.

The criterion for student applications follow:

**Grade Level Eligibility:** Only students who are in sixth, seventh or eighth grade may be considered for a Board scholarship.

**Student Nominations:** In order to be considered for a scholarship from the Board of Education a student must be nominated by a Laraway faculty or staff member. As part of the process, the faculty or staff member would be expected to describe the way(s) in which he/she believes the student would benefit from attending the extra-curricular event/program.

**Good Consumerism:** Students, and their families are expected to be good consumers, meaning, to seek learning opportunities that achieve the best return on the Board and their own investment. Living within a one-hour commute of the large metropolitan area of Chicago affords our youth with a wealth of unique learning opportunities for modest costs. Board scholarships will be strictly limited to events/programs that will occur within the state of Illinois.

**Scholarship Grant Eligibility Criteria:** The scholarship is not based upon the financial need of the student/family. However, in order to be considered for the scholarship, at the time of application the student's grades and conduct must, at minimum, be in compliance with the same eligibility standards as required by the IESA (Illinois Elementary School Association).

**Documentation:** All event literature and photo copies of registration materials (completed in full) must be presented to the Board Scholarship Committee as part of the application process. The student and his/her family will be informed by the Board Scholarship Committee of the total dollar amount that will be awarded, if any.

**Scholarship Grant Limit:** The Board of Education recognizes that students/families who must make a financial investment in the cost of the learning event will tend to value the experience more. It is human nature, anything acquired for free is less appreciated. On that basis, scholarship grants are limited to \$300 each, or no more than fifty (50) percent of the total registration cost of the event. For example, a student desiring to attend an entrepreneur symposium costing \$750 would receive no more than \$300, and a student desiring to attend a leadership seminar costing \$150 dollars would receive no more than \$75. Scholarships amount awarded to students may depend upon the number of scholarship applications, i.e. fewer requests may result in higher scholarship amounts awarded, but no higher than the limits noted above. Students will be limited to only one (1) scholarship award per fiscal year.

**Fundraising:** Student/family fundraising for the event expenses beyond the Laraway Scholarship Grant is the sole responsibility of the student/family – the Board of Education nor will school officials facilitate any personal fundraising efforts. The Board's Scholarship is made with the stipulation that the student/family will not fundraise monies that exceed the total cost of the event, minus the Board Scholarship amount. Student fundraising is governed by Board Policy 7:325.

**Student Accountability:** Once the student concludes the extra-curricular learning event he/she must attend a regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education and briefly share (10 minute maximum) the highlights of his/her experience.

**Board Payment of Scholarship Funds:** Upon submitting written confirmation of the parent's full payment of the registration costs, confirmation that the student attended and fully participated in the event, and the student personally shares the outcome of his/her experience with the Board, payment of the scholarship money as committed will be authorized by the Board. Payment by school district issued check will be made to the parent within 30 days after the above three conditions have been provided to the satisfaction of the Board Scholarship Committee. In unique circumstances, when a family is in financial need, the Board Scholarship Committee may authorize the district to make the scholarship payment directly to the event/program organizer in advance, as a deposit.

Students who wish to apply for a Board Scholarship must use the attached application.

Faculty or staff who wish to nominate a student to attend an extracurricular event/program, and seek financial assistance from the Laraway Board of Education, may use the attached nomination form.

All forms are to be submitted to the Superintendent's Office, which will then be promptly forwarded to the Board Scholarship Committee.

**Laraway Community Consolidated School District**

**Student Scholarship Program**

**Application**

The Laraway Board of Education desires to morally and financially demonstrate support for students who are showing the initiative to pursue opportunities to expand their learning experiences, by participating in wholesome extra-curricular programs, conferences, camps, clinics, classes, workshops, etc. that occur beyond the regular school day, i.e. evenings, weekends, during the winter, spring and/or summer breaks. This scholarship is intended to more heavily emphasize the academic pursuits of students. Please be sure to read the full explanation of the Student Scholarship Program before completing this application.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Program, Conference, Class, Workshop, etc. You Are Desiring to Attend:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Location of This Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) and Hours of This Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Cost: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration Deadline: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Laraway Teacher/Staff Who is Nominating You: \_\_\_\_\_

How Do You Hope to Benefit from Attending This Event:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please be sure to attach copies of all informational about this event, as well as the completed registration form.

Remember to attach a copy of the Nomination Form, completed by the Laraway teacher/staff.

Submit this application along with all required documents to the Superintendent's Office well in advance of the registration deadline.

**Laraway Community Consolidated School District**

**Student Scholarship Program**

**Teacher/Staff Nomination Form**

The Laraway Board of Education desires to morally and financially demonstrate support for students who are showing the initiative to pursue opportunities to expand their learning experiences, by participating in wholesome extra-curricular programs, conferences, camps, clinics, classes, workshops, etc. that occur beyond the regular school day, i.e. evenings, weekends, during the winter, spring and/or summer breaks. This scholarship is intended to more heavily emphasize the academic pursuits of students. Please be sure to read the full explanation of the Student Scholarship Program before completing this nomination form.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Program, Conference, Class, Workshop, etc. Student Desires to Attend:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) and Location of This Event: \_\_\_\_\_

How Do You Hope the Student will Benefit from Attending This Event:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why Do You Believe the Student Should be Considered for Financial Assistance by the Board:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher/Staff Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to add on the reverse side any other information that should be taken into consideration by the Board of Education Student Scholarship subcommittee.

Once completed this Nomination Form should be given to the student who is being nominated. It is his/her responsibility to include it as part of the application process.