

## Mississippi Fire Fighters Association Ray Bryant Scholarship Fund



### **History**

At the 60<sup>th</sup> annual Mississippi Fire Fighters Association Conference in Natchez, MS, the general membership present voted unanimously to award an annual \$1,000 scholarship in honor of Ray Bryant, who at the time was the only living charter member of the Association.

The eligible student will be children, stepchildren, or grandchildren of active members who have maintained membership for at least five (5) consecutive years, including the year of application.

### **General Information**

The Selection Committee shall be comprised of seven (7) members as follows: The President, Vice-President at-large, and the Secretary –Treasurer of the MFFA, President of the Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association, President of the Mississippi Fire Instructors Association. Representative for the Retired Firefighters, and the President of the Volunteer Firefighters. The Selection Committee will award one \$1,000 scholarship each year. The scholarship is paid over a one-year period (\$500.00 per semester) and is issued directly to the college or university of the student's choice. Graduating high school seniors will be eligible to submit an application for the scholarship.

The District Vice President will obtain applications consisting of the Entry Form and the Objective Criteria List from eligible students.

### **Evaluation Procedure**

The actual evaluation procedure will occur in the following manner. The District Vice President will have blank application forms available for eligible students in his/her district. The two (2) part application form shall consist of the Entry Form and an Objective Criteria List.

When the District Vice President receives these two completed forms from the eligible student, he/she will forward only the Objective Criteria List to the Secretary. The District Vice President will assign an applicant member that will match EACH Entry Form to its Objective Criteria List. The member used shall begin with the initials of the district; i.e. applicant #1 from the Northwest District should be number NW1, #2 is NW2 and so on. This is to help ensure objectivity in the evaluation process. THE DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT MUST RETAIN A COPY OF BOTH FORMS WITH CORRESPONDING NUMBERS IN THE EVENT THAT ONE OF THEIR STUDENTS IS SELECTED FOR INTERVIEW.

**Objective Criteria List**

The Objective Criteria List will provide the criteria to be evaluated. The District Vice President is advised to return the application to the Selection Committee by February 20<sup>th</sup>. Please note that the Objective Criteria List requires the applicant to list the criteria by which they are to be evaluated, those being:

**Phase One**

- I. 20% ACT or SAT Composite Scores
- II. 20% Grade Point Average
- III. 20% Extracurricular Activities
- IV. 15% Student’s Curriculum
- V. 15% Work Activities
- VI. 10% Financial Need

**Phase Two** (not conducted until final three are selected)

Interview

**Judging**

The judging will be conducted in two phases. Phase one will consist of selecting the top three applicants based on the six areas indicated above. The final selection will be determined after Phase Two, the interview evaluation. The Selection Committee will conduct the individual interviews.

**Phase One**

After all the Objective Criteria List to be evaluated have been received, the Selection Committee Members will need to meet as a group to select three finalists. As each member evaluates each applicant’s Objective Criteria List, the first thing they should do is note the applicant member of that form and write it in the space provided on the Criteria Evaluation Sheet.

Phase One shall be completed by the first week in March.

The Secretary will then notify the District Vice President advising them of the three finalist selected. A meeting will then be arranged for Phase Two of the selection. The three finalist and the Selection Committee must all be present to participate in the individual interviews.

The interview will be the most difficult to arrange for the Selection Committee Members because of schedule conflicts with the students and yourselves; it is important to accommodate all parties involved to coordinate the interview as soon as possible.

### Phase Two – Judging the Interview

The purpose of the interview is to determine which of the three finalist will be named the recipient of the scholarship. The evaluation up to this point has been based on academics, extracurricular and work activities, and financial need.

The interview will allow the student to express his/her ability to think, reason and communicate his/her ideas and feelings, not only about himself/herself and others, but also about his/her community and country as well.

Keep in mind that the interview must determine a clear-cut scholarship recipient. Approximately ten to fifteen minutes should be allowed for each student during this interview process. Each judge present should complete an Interview Evaluation Sheet and enter it on the Scoring Recap Chart, "Judges Scores, Phase II Scores."

The following is a list of optional questions to be used in the interview. These questions are only suggestions and do not necessarily have to be strictly followed.

1. What are your goals in Life?
2. Describe your understanding of our democratic form of government and why the right to vote is important?
3. What contributions can you make to the community in which you will live after college?
4. Describe the most important part of your high school career?
5. Describe your understanding of the free enterprise system?
6. What do you want to be remembered for?

When the interviews have been completed, total the Phase I and Phase II scores.

**ALL INTERVIEWS SHOULD BE COMPLETED NO LATER THAN THE THIRD WEEK OF MARCH.**

Amendments:

1. The MFFA will issue a check to the scholarship recipient instead of the college itself in the event that the scholarship money is needed for books, housing, etc.
2. The applicant must include proof of acceptance to college to be eligible for this scholarship.
3. The applicant must state the relationship to the MFFA member.
4. Amounts awarded will be determined by the Executive Board of the MFFA.

**Mississippi Fire Fighters Association  
Ray Bryant Scholarship Fund**



***Entry Form***

**APPLICANT NUMBER:** \_\_\_\_\_

*The District Vice President will assign an applicant number that will match EACH Entry Form to its Objective Criteria List. The number used shall begin with the initials of the district; i.e. applicant #1 from the Northwest District should be number NW1, #2 is NW2 and so on.*

**History**

At the 60<sup>th</sup> annual Mississippi Fire Fighters Association Conference in Natchez, MS the general membership present voted unanimously to award an annual \$1000 scholarship in honor of Ray Bryant, who at the time was the only living charter member of the Association. During recent years, the Executive Board has increased the scholarship amount due to the current allocation of Fire Tag monies. The Executive Board will determine the final amount allocated to the Ray Bryant Scholarship Fund on a yearly basis depending on Fire Tag monies income.

The eligible student will be children, stepchildren, or grandchildren of active members who have maintained membership for at least five (5) consecutive years, including the year of application.

*Please Print (return completed application and Objective Criteria List to your District Vice President)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Current High School: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

MFFA Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Member Since: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant Signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Member Signature Date

**Mississippi Fire Fighters Association  
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APPLICATION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

**Objective Criteria List**

**ACT and/or SAT Score**

\_\_\_\_\_ **ACT**

\_\_\_\_\_ **SAT**

**Current High School GPA:** \_\_\_\_\_

Extra Curricular Activities (i.e. Church, Sports, Music, Clubs)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Curriculum: List All High School Course Taken (including current enrollment)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Work Activities: Describe Your Work Experience To Date (if any)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Financial Need: Indicate any condition that could financially prohibit you from attending college.  
(i.e. disabled parent, single parent home, etc.)

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