

Southwest Georgia Technical College, Foundation Inc.

Scholarship Policies and Procedures

Debbie Griffiths Scholarship

Made available by:

Debbie Griffiths

BACKGROUND

In October 2005, Debbie Griffiths established the Debbie Griffiths Scholarship Fund.

PURPOSE

To assist students enrolled in the Nursing Programs at Southwest Georgia Technical College with education related expenses.

PROCEDURES

Applicants must be currently enrolled in the Associate Degree or Practical Nursing programs of study at Southwest Georgia Technical College. A minimum of 12 hours must be completed and earned at SWGTC.

Applicants must complete a SWGTC Scholarship Application form (Attachment A).

Applicants must compose an essay titled, *"Why I chose Nursing and Why this Scholarship is Important to Me."* (Maximum 250 words)

Applicants must obtain a letter of recommendation from a fulltime member of the SWGTC Faculty, high school counselor, clergy, or etc. The letter should communicate the author's observations of the student's potential to become a skilled employee in the Gerontology field of study. Letters of recommendation must be on letterhead with a current date and an original signature.

Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 and must submit a copy of their transcript.

REVIEW PROCESS

The Executive Director of the Southwest Georgia Technical College Foundation has established a committee to review the Debbie Griffiths scholarship applications. Members of the committee include the Dean for

Academic Affairs, the Associate Degree Nursing Program Director and the Retention Coordinator.

The Debbie Griffiths Scholarship recipient will be selected utilizing the attached evaluation document.

Committee members will independently score each application submitted. The applicant receiving the highest average score will be awarded the scholarship. Financial need will be an underlying consideration by the committee.

In the event of a tie, applicants will be requested to prepare and deliver a two-minute impromptu speech on a current trend in the care of the elderly. The committee members will independently score each applicant. The applicant receiving the highest average score will be awarded the scholarship.

The primary intent of the scholarship program of the SWGTC Foundation is to assist students with tuition, fees, and book expenses through need-based and merit-based scholarships. For this reason, all scholarship applicants are required to apply for financial aid. Financial aid awards will be considered in the scholarship awards process.

Southwest Georgia Technical College Foundation funded scholarships are to be used at Southwest Georgia Technical College only (Thomas County, Grady County, Mitchell County, and the Valdosta Technical College A.D.N. program) and are not transferrable to other institutions.

Southwest Georgia Technical College Foundation scholarships are intended for approved educational related expenses only, as set forth in the scholarship policies. Any fraudulent use of scholarship funds or misrepresentation of expense to gain reimbursement will result in termination of scholarship funding and ineligibility to apply for future Southwest Georgia Technical College Foundation scholarship funding opportunity.

Scholarship accounts that remain inactive for one year will be adjusted and unused funds will be transferred back to the SWGTC Foundation. Exceptions to this policy will be in cases where the length of time the scholarship can remain in the student's account before usage are outlined in the individual scholarship policy (such as the High School Scholarship and other recruitment-based scholarships).

Approved: November 1, 2005

Revised: August 28, 2007; October 8, 2008; July 6, 2009; 11/09; 7/10

Debbie Griffiths Scholarship Evaluation

1. Academic Achievement

Grade Point Average

| | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| (90-100) | 4.0 | = 5 pts. |
| (85-89) | 3.5-3.99 | = 4 pts. |
| (80-84) | 3.0-3.49 | = 3 pts. |
| (74-79) | 2.5-2.99 | = 2 pts. |
| (70-73) | 2.0-2.49 | = 1 pts. |

2. Essay

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Followed criteria | = 1 - 5 pts. |
| Grammatically correct | = 1 - 5 pts. |
| Defined characteristics | = 1 - 5 pts. |
| Illustrated personal commitment | = 1 - 5 pts. |
| Compelling case | = 1 - 5 pts. |

3. Faculty Evaluation

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Supports student as recipient | = 1 - 5 pts. |
| Specific observations | = 1 - 5 pts. |
| Commonalities with essay | = 1 - 5 pts. |

Tie Breaker – Impromptu Speech

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Followed criteria | = 20 pts. |
| Addressed topic | = 20 pts. |
| Organized points | = 20 pts. |