

# CUERO ISD EDUCATION FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION for CHS ALUMNI

# **Requirements:**

Thank you for your interest in applying with the Cuero ISD Education Foundation. Before beginning your application please review the following list of requirements.

- You must be a 2024, 2023, 2022, or 2021 graduate of Cuero High School to be eligible.
- You must submit the following documents with your application to be eligible:
  - a. A copy of your UNOFFICIAL transcript, which details your GPA from previous semesters and the courses you are currently enrolled in, in PDF format.
  - *b.* A resume in PDF format (you can learn more about the resume requirements below)
  - c. A current headshot photo of yourself in JPG format

### **Optional Requirements:**

• In addition, if you would like to be considered for the Fischer "Helping Hands" Scholarship, you must provide one of the following: your parent or guardian's current 1040 (page 1), a copy of your current <u>Student Aid Report</u> (SAR), OR a copy of your completed <u>Free Application for Student Aid</u> (FAFSA). Any information submitted will only be seen by the scholarship committee and will be kept confidential.

#### Additional Requirements:

- To continue to be eligible, you must submit two current, signed, and dated letters of recommendation on letterhead: one from a member of the clergy, recent employer, or director of a non-profit organization with which you volunteer, and one from an academic advisor, teacher, or professor, to the Cuero ISD Education Foundation at <u>info@cueroedfoundation.org</u> by the scholarship deadline. You can learn more about the letter of recommendation requirements below. It is the student's responsibility to confirm that their letters of recommendation have been received by the Cuero ISD Education Foundation by the scholarship deadline.
- After your application is submitted, to continue to be eligible you must request that your OFFICIAL Spring 2025 transcript be sent from the college or university you currently attend to the Cuero ISD Education Foundation. Your OFFICIAL Spring 2025 transcript must be received by the Cuero ISD Education Foundation by June 1 or your application will be forfeit. It is the student's responsibility to confirm that their OFFICIAL transcript

has been received by the Cuero ISD Education Foundation by June 1 or the student's application will be forfeit.

# *Please reply to the questions below as they relate to you, the scholarship applicant.*

- 1. In what year did you graduate from Cuero High School?
  - a. 2024
  - b. 2023
  - c. 2022
  - d. 2021

# **Contact and Personal Information**

- 2. First Name
- 3. Last Name
- 4. Phone Number
- 5. Alternate Phone Number
- 6. Email Address
- 7. Mailing Address
- 8. Gender
- 9. Please submit a recent headshot photo of yourself for potential publication if chosen as a Cuero ISD Education Foundation scholarship recipient. Please refrain from submitting "selfies." While professional photography is not a requirement, the photo should exhibit a professional appearance.

# **Academic Information**

- 10. Cumulative GPA at the college or university you currently attend.
- 11. Please list the colleges or universities you have attended since graduating from Cuero high school. Please include your dates of enrollment at each institution.
- 12. Please list the college or university you plan to attend during the Fall 2024 semester.
- 13. Please specify the degree or certification plan you are pursuing.
- 14. In 300 words or less, please summarize your career goals and aspirations.
- 15. Do you have a copy of your unofficial transcript from the college or university you are currently attending?
- 16. Please upload a copy of your UNOFFICIAL transcript in PDF form.
- 17. Are there any extenuating circumstances that have affected your ability to achieve in school or participate in extracurricular activities and/or community service during your college career or that have affected your family's current financial situation that you would like to be taken into consideration?

#### **Exceptional Personal Circumstances**

The phrase "exceptional personal circumstances" is intentionally broad, providing you with an opportunity to address any factors that may have impacted your academic performance or prevented you from participating in extracurricular and/or community service activities.

Exceptional personal circumstances can include a range of occurrences including, natural disasters, prolonged illnesses or injuries, legal or disciplinary matters, or personal events that significantly disrupted the applicant's life. Exceptional personal circumstances can include circumstances that, while not singular events or major life changes, posed additional challenges to completing or engaging with schoolwork. Examples of such challenges could include dedicating substantial time to a job to support your family financially or facing connectivity issues like poor wifi that hindered your ability to complete homework.

18. Please explain, in 300 words or less, unusual circumstances that have affected your ability to achieve in school or participate in extracurricular activities and/or community service activities during your college career or that have affected your family's current financial situation (i.e., extraordinary medical expenses, parent or guardian's loss of job, multiple siblings in college, etc.

#### Extracurricular, Community Service, and Work History

As part of the application process you must provide a copy of your resume that includes the following (in the following order):

- A list of the extracurricular activities you have participated in during your college career. Please include the approximate dates of involvement.
- A list of the youth and/or community organizations you have participated in during your college career. Please include the approximate dates of involvement.
- A list of the odd jobs, summer jobs, part-time jobs, full-time jobs, and internships you have held during your college career. Please include your employer's name as well as the approximate dates of your employment and hours worked per week.
- A list of any and all leadership roles and/or offices held in extracurricular activities or youth/community organizations.
- A list of the honors and awards you have received both in and out of school during your college career. Please include the approximate dates the honors and awards were received.
- A list of the community service activities you have participated in during your college career. Please include the approximate dates of service and number of hours served per activity. Failure to include the estimated number of hours served per activity will result in zero (0) community service points awarded.
- 19. Upload your resume as a PDF, black font on white background only.
- 20. In 300 words or less, please highlight one community service activity you participated in during the last year. The essay should detail why you chose to participate in the activity,

what impact the experience had on you, what you contributed to the activity, and how the experience influenced your educational goals and career objectives. If you were unable to participate in a community service activity during the past year, please use your essay to explain why.

## **Official Transcripts**

- 21. You must acknowledge the following requirements to submit your application.
  - a. [checkbox] I agree to request an OFFICIAL transcript, which details my Spring 2025 grades, be sent to the Cuero ISD Education Foundation from the college or university I currently attend by the deadline.
  - b. [checkbox] I understand that my OFFICIAL transcript must be received by noon on June 1 or my scholarship application will be forfeited.
  - c. [checkbox] I understand that it is my responsibility to follow up with the Cuero ISD Education Foundation via email at info@cueroedfoundation.org to ensure receipt of my OFFICIAL transcript.

#### Letters of Recommendation

- 22. You must acknowledge the following requirements to submit your application.
  - a. *[checkbox]* I commit to providing TWO current, signed, and dated letters of recommendation on official letterhead from: One letter from a member of the clergy, recent employer, or director of a non-profit organization with which I volunteer AND one letter from an academic advisor, teacher or professor.
  - b. [checkbox] I understand that the required recommendation letters must be sent to the Cuero ISD Education Foundation email address by the scholarship application deadline at info@cueroedfoundation.org or my application will be forfeited.
  - c. [checkbox] I understand that my recommendation letters should not be dated more than three months in advance of the scholarship application deadline and should not be written by someone who has not interacted with me personally during the last year.
  - d. *[checkbox]* I understand that recommendation letters should provide details regarding my character, work ethic, and dedication to school and community.
  - e. [checkbox] I understand that, because my letters of recommendation must be current, I cannot submit letters of recommendation from Cuero ISD faculty.

# Frederick W. Fischer "Helping Hands" Scholarship

Financial need is a consideration for eligibility, and the scholarship committee requires verification of your parent or guardian's income. Please be assured that any information provided will be kept confidential and accessible only to the scholarship committee.

It's common for college students to hold the misconception that they may not qualify for needbased aid solely based on their family's income. However, the reality is that financial need is a straightforward calculation, representing the difference between your educational expenses and your family's financial capacity to cover those costs. The assessment of financial need considers various factors, such as changes in income, your academic year, family size, and whether you have siblings concurrently attending college—all of which can influence this calculation.

23. Would you like to be considered to receive the Fischer "Helping Hands" Scholarship?

#### **Financial Need Verification**

(only required for those students applying for the Fischer "Helping Hands" Scholarship)

Financial need is an eligibility requirement for the Frederick W. Fischer "Helping Hands" Scholarship. It's common for scholarship applicants to hold the misconception that they may not qualify for need-based aid solely based on their family's income. However, the reality is that financial need is a straightforward calculation, representing the difference between your educational expenses and your family's financial capacity to cover those costs. The assessment of financial need considers various factors, such as changes in income, your academic year, family size, and whether you have siblings concurrently attending college—all of which can influence this calculation.

In order to be considered for the Frederick W. Fischer "Helping Hands" scholarship the scholarship committee requires verification of your parent or guardian's income. Please be assured that any information provided will be kept confidential and accessible only to the scholarship committee.

- 24. Please list the grants and scholarships that have been awarded to you to date. Please include the name of the grant/scholarship, amount awarded, and semester(s) in which those funds will be disbursed to you.
- 25. Please upload a copy of the first page of your parent or guardian's most recent tax return (1040), a copy of your completed Free Application For Student Aid, or a copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR).

# **Applicant's Statement**

1. [checkbox] I affirm that the information furnished in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and truthful. I am aware that the Cuero ISD Education Foundation reserves the right to verify this application at its discretion.