

ISMAEL FERNANDEZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Criteria & Eligibility Requirements

Ismael Fernandez was a 2015 Parma High School graduate with a passion for community service and involvement in government. One of his earliest activities was the organization of a penny drive when he was in the first grade to assist victims of the Indonesian tsunami, and throughout his school years, he participated in numerous other community projects. As a freshman, Ismael served as a Page for the Idaho House of Representatives. He was appointed to the Idaho Juvenile Justice Commission when he was only 17. At age 19, he was elected to the Wilder City Council, becoming the youngest elected official in Idaho. Just before his tragic death in an automobile accident in 2017, he was appointed to the Idaho Suicide Prevention Council. His family and friends have established this scholarship fund in hopes of assisting other students who share Ismael's passion for community service.

1. **Deadline.** Completed applications must be RECEIVED on or before **February 20th, 2024**. Completed applications are to be mailed to Ismael Fernandez Memorial Scholarship, c/o Parma High School, 137 Panther Way, Parma, ID 83660 or given to the high school counselor's office.
2. Eligibility Requirements: 1) must be a graduating Parma High School student; 2) must have a 2.2 GPA minimum; and 3) must be accepted into a 2-year or 4-year accredited post-secondary educational program, vocational-technical school, vocational institute, business school, or some other qualifying training institute.
3. A complete application will include:
 - The application cover sheet (see next page);
 - A written essay of 500 words to 1000 words. Describe an issue that you are passionate about. Explain the problem, the causes of the problem, and what you believe can be done to solve it;
 - A resume indicating activities and offices held; honors and awards received; community service projects including hours volunteered and employment history;
 - Either a transcript through seven semesters **OR** a letter of acceptance from an institute of higher education (note that grades or acceptance are only to verify eligibility, and are not otherwise considered for this scholarship);
 - Two Completed Character Reference Forms One from a teacher, advisor or coach, and one from an adult in the community (not a parent or close relative).
4. Candidates will be judged based on the following criteria:
 - Character
 - Recommendations
 - Services, activities, and passion for community improvement
 - Leadership
 - Applicant's future plans
 - Interview (if necessary)
5. The actual cash award will be disbursed directly to the institution in which the student enrolls. The funds are for educational expenses only, which include the following: 1) Student tuition and fees; 2) Room and Board; 3) Books and supplies; 4) Expenses related to reasonable commuting, and 5) Other expenses reasonably related to attendance at a post-secondary educational institution.
6. This scholarship is a one-time \$750 award.

ISMAEL R FERNANDEZ CHARACTER REFERENCE FORM

To the Reference: Please complete and return this form in a sealed envelope to the applicant or to the Ismael Fernandez Memorial Scholarship Fund c/o Parma High School 137 Panther Way Parma, ID 83660. Please avoid using names in the short answer sections.

Please Rate Applicant by checking one or more items under each of the headings below:

1. Self-discipline and work habits

- Well disciplined, completes work well in advance
- Completes work on time
- Average self-discipline; completes work on time
- Sometimes works is late and quality limited
- Easily distracted; has difficulty completing work
- No basis for evaluation

3. Commitment to Learning

- Very open to new insights and perspectives
- Able to discuss different views without defensiveness
- Has strong opinions and tends to be argumentative
- Rigid and opinionated
- No basis for evaluation

2. Perseverance

- Works hard and completes even most difficult tasks
- Usually challenges self to complete difficult tasks
- At times gets distracted, but completes tasks taken on or given
- Waits to be given tasks and completes them
- Does not challenge self to complete difficult task
- No basis for Evaluation

4. Goal Orientation

- Has a clear image of future and has actively taken steps to realize goals
- Makes plans and goals for future outside of education
- Has plans but has yet to take steps towards reaching goals
- Does not have any specific goals or plans outside of education
- No basis for evaluation

5. Altruism

- Makes self available to others who need help
- Often puts others before self
- Strongly believes in the importance of caring for others
- Does not put others before self
- Self-involved
- Frequently cold or unfriendly towards others
- No basis for evaluation

7. Decision Making ability

- Decisions are carefully thought out
- Open to the insights of others
- At times acts impulsively
- Frequently encounters problems because of poor decisions
- No basis for evaluation

6. Commitment to Community

- Active member of the community
- Positive influence in the community
- Embodies values important to the community
- Has plans for the community
- Strongly believes in giving back to the community
- Intends to stay within the community
- Does not intend to stay within the community
- No basis for evaluation

8. Vision for the Future

- Has a positive image of the future and role in it
- Has strong beliefs in how the future should be
- Does not have a specific vision for the future
- Is more concerned about present than future
- No basis for evaluation

Give a statement about the applicant's background that will help us better understand him/her/them:

How long have you known the applicant, and in what capacity, how familiar are you with him/her/they?

Please share whatever you think is important for the review board to know about this student (e.g., unusual strengths, specific interest areas, important character traits and values.)

Reference Name (Print): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City	State	Zip Code
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Signature: _____

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