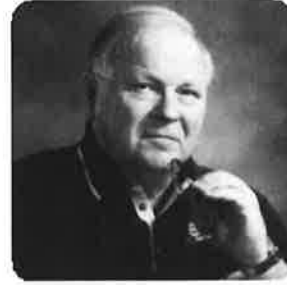


BELIEVE 271 FOUNDATION INC. PRESENTS THE GREGORY J. WILSEY SCHOLARSHIP



The Believe 271 Foundation, Inc. (B271), presents a scholarship in memory of Gregory J. Wilsey. We will present up to four (4) \$500.00 scholarships to individuals who have successfully completed high school, are accepted for full time study at a two or four-year college or university in the next academic year and plan to major in a trade, fire, EMS, nursing, engineering, or education field. Special consideration will be given to applicants who are currently volunteer firefighters.

DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2024, AT 3:00 PM

Guidelines

1. Refer to the criteria below for eligibility requirements. Refer to the application process below for a list of the supporting documents needed (i.e. Evidence of cumulative average, acceptance letter).
2. Incomplete applications will not be considered. We recommend that you have a guidance counselor, advisor, or other school official review the contents of your application for completion and accuracy.
3. All applications must be completed using the online form found on our website: www.Believe271.com.
4. If you have any questions about the application process, please email scholarships@believe271.com.
5. A list of suggestions for completing the application process is available online.

Eligibility Criteria

1. Applicant must be an accepted student at a 2- or 4-year college.
2. Applicant must be a college student in the fall of the subsequent year. The student does not have to have freshman status. This applies to students graduating from high school with college credits.
3. Applicant must be majoring in a trade, fire, EMS, nursing, engineering, or education. A major must be declared.
4. Applicant must have a minimum, cumulative average of 85 (3.0) or higher.
5. Applicant must be a resident of Oneida or Herkimer County. The applicants home address will be used.

Application Process / Applicant must submit the following items:

1. Completed online application form. Saved as a PDF file.
2. Attach a copy of your most recent unofficial or official transcript with cumulative average.
3. Attach proof of acceptance from an accredited 2- or 4-year college or university. If notification is not available at the time of application, it must be submitted prior to receipt of scholarship funds.
4. Attach a list of extracurricular activities, include leadership roles (i.e., President, Captain). Include volunteer activities. Activities (school and community) must have occurred over the past 4 yrs. Include if you are a volunteer firefighter.
5. Attach an essay (500 words or less) on one of the following topics:
 - "Why I have decided to pursue a career in a trade, fire, EMS, nursing, engineering or education."
 - "How has my volunteerism impacted my life and future plans?"
6. Attach a recommendation from high school teacher, administrator, coach, guidance counselor, advisor, or community leader. The recommendation should reference why you would be successful in your career of choice or how you have contributed to your community and/or school through your volunteerism.

Selection Process & Announcement of Recipients:

A committee of three or four members familiar with the Believe 271 Foundation Mission will review the applications and make a recommendation. The recommendation will be in the form of a rank order of the applications. The B271 Foundation will seriously consider the recommendations when making the final selection.

Scholarship recipients will initially be notified by phone, followed by letter and will be announced via the local media.

BELIEVE 271 FOUNDATION, INC. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1. Complete **online application** form. **Save as a PDF file.**

Attach to the online application:

2. A copy of your most recent unofficial or official **transcript with cumulative average.**
3. **Proof of acceptance** from an accredited 2 or 4 year or college is required prior to receipt of scholarship funds.
4. A list of **extracurricular and volunteer activities**, include leadership roles (i.e., President, Captain). Activities must have happened over the past four years. If you are a volunteer firefighter, please note what department where you are a member in good standing.
5. **Essay** (500 words or less) on **one of these topics:**
- “Why I have decided to pursue a career in a trade, fire, EMS, nursing, engineering or education.”
 - “How have my volunteer activities impacted my life and future plans?”
6. **Recommendation** from a high school teacher, administrator, coach, advisor, guidance counselor or community member. The recommendation should reference why you would be successful in your selected college major and/or how your volunteerism has impacted the school and community.

SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE IS APRIL 15, 2024

Questions? Contact...

Brian McQueen at 315-552-8245

Sarah McQueen at 315-723-2343

Suggestions for Completing the 2024 Believe 271 Scholarship Application

• Submissions

- #1 –All submissions must be in PDF format.
 - Exception – **Online Application**
- #2 - **Transcript** must be current (within 3 months of April 15th deadline)
 - Should be dated and signed (not required)
 - Weighted vs. Unweighted GPA – since not all high schools offer weighted GPA – unweighted GPA will be used by the evaluators.
- #3 - **College Acceptance** should be on the college letterhead and legible (no screen shots)
- #4 - **Activities**
 - Separate activities into the following:
 - Clubs and Organizations
 - Sports
 - Volunteer / Community Service
 - Honors and Awards
 - Employment
 - Include years involved (ex. 11, 12)
 - Include leadership roles (ex. Captain, President)
 - Evaluators will be adding five scoring points to those applicants who are volunteer firefighters. Be sure to note what fire department.
- #5 - **Essay topics**
 - Be sure to address one of the following topics:
 - “Why I have decided to pursue a career in a trade, fire, EMS, nursing or education.”
 - Be sure to maintain the same choice of major as noted in the online application.
 - “How have my volunteer activities impacted my life and future.”
 - If a volunteer firefighter, be sure to include it in your essay.
- #6 - **Recommendation topics**
 - Must be for the Believe 271 / Gregory Wilsey Scholarship
 - Best if on school letterhead from your high school or letterhead from a community organization.
 - Includes job title of recommender.
 - Includes how they know the applicant.
 - References one of the following:
 - Why the applicant would be successful in their career choice.
 - How the applicant has contributed to their community and/or school through volunteerism.

