



The Jim Collins Scholarship Guidelines

Introduction

The Jim Collins Scholarship has been an asset to Corsicana Independent School District since 1954. More than 2,400 Corsicana students have received Collins Scholarships with over \$18 million spent on tuition, room, board, books and required instructional supplies.

Nationally recognized as one of the most outstanding scholarship programs in any one school system, the Jim Collins Scholarship Program is perpetual and continues to grow each year. Only investment proceeds from the principal sum are used toward the scholarship.

This tremendous opportunity for Corsicana High School graduates is a significant contribution to the education of numerous deserving and worthy students. By continued good stewardship, future Boards of Trustees will multiply this scholarship program to impact the lives of many more students.

Mr. James L Collins was born in 1883. He was an oil man who had no formal education but was a hard worker who matured with the oil industry. He served as Director and Vice President of the Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, Director of the Independent Petroleum Association of America, and Director of the First National Bank of Corsicana.

After his death in 1953, his estate was divided four ways:

- A namesake parochial school in Corsicana;
- The Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children;
- St. Joseph's Orphanage of Dallas and;
- A scholarship fund to help graduates of Corsicana High School attend college.

Mr. Collins' gift has enriched the lives of more CHS students than he could have ever imagined.

CURRENT CHS STUDENTS

Eligibility

- A. For a student to be eligible to apply for The Jim Collins Scholarship, the student must attend Corsicana High School for all four (4) years.
- B. The student must be in the top 20% of the graduating class after the first semester of his/her senior year. Students in this range will be notified of the opportunity to apply. After the third nine weeks, the top 20% and citizenship will be re-evaluated. Any student falling below the top 20% or with citizenship issues will be removed from consideration.
- C. The student must have excellent citizenship during all four years of high school. (No DAEP, no ISS)
- D. The following must be completed by the beginning of the application process: SAT/ACT; FAFSA; and an application AND acceptance to a Texas public or private university, Junior College, or Vocation School.
- E. The student must exhibit financial need. **CISD Board of Trustees shall determine financial need based on economic status of the applicant's family as well as college costs.*
- F. Note: Students who submit inaccurate financial information and/or financial information in which the full income is not disclosed may have their Collins Scholarship revoked.

Application Process (dates for each step to be determined yearly)

Part 1

Financial application and Essay

- A. Student Information
- B. Parent/Guardian Information
- C. Class Rank
- D. SAT/ACT
- E. Transcripts (CHS/Navarro College)
- F. Acceptance Letters
- G. Video Essay
- H. Financial Information
 - a. Parent/Guardian data (affidavit must be provided for non-support of a parent, supplemental financial information could be requested)
 - b. Household net worth
 - c. Previous two years of tax returns
 - d. FAFSA

Part 2

Interviews

Part 3

Announcement of awards

CURRENT COLLINS SCHOLARS

Enrollment and Grades

- A. Student must attend a fully accredited Texas public or private university, Junior College, or Vocation School
- B. The scholarship will pay for up to eight (8) semesters of school, or up to the completion of a bachelor's degree. Scholars can defer one time, up to four semesters.
- C. The scholar must meet grade requirements.
 - a. The scholar is required to maintain a 2.0 GPA in semesters #1 and #2. The scholar is required to maintain a cumulative 2.5 GPA in semesters #3-#8. Grades will be documented each semester. Failure to turn in grades on time *will result in loss of scholarship*. Grades will be recorded for future scholarship funding each FALL, SPRING, and SUMMER cycle.
- D. Scholars are required to be enrolled in a minimum of 12 semester hours each semester (Fall and Spring). It is highly encouraged that students take at least 15-16 college hours per semester in case a class worth 1-4 hours needs to be dropped. This will ensure that the student will remain in compliance. The final semester may be less than 12 hours, with approval.

Reporting

- E. The Scholar is responsible for submitting his/her grades for the previous semester to the administrator by June 1 or Jan. 1. Failure to do so will result in scholarship termination.
- F. Probation: The Collins Scholarship Board may issue a "probationary" status to a student. Probationary status is only granted for extenuating circumstances by the Board. While the student is on probation the student does not have access to scholarship funds. Probation is not a common practice.
- G. Scholar may use a semester of funding for summer school. The scholar must take at least 12 hours over Summer I and II, pay for it themselves, then submit grades for reimbursement.
- H. The Jim Collins Scholarship will be a "first pay" scholarship and will be paid directly to the school.

Communication

- A. If anything significant happens in the scholar's life (emergency, illness, death in the family, etc) before he/she drops a class, or makes any significant decisions effecting degree plan, he/she should reach out to the Collins Scholarship Administrator.
- B. If the scholar moves, it is the Scholar's responsibility to contact the Collins office to give a new address and/or phone numbers. Scholars are required to keep a CISD email account throughout their time as a Collins scholar.

Expectations

- A. Scholars must continue to exhibit excellent citizenship during the term of the scholarship.
- B. The Jim Collins Scholarship board has the right to check social media, citizenship, and leadership of a scholar during the term of the scholarship. If the CISD Board of Trustees deems inappropriate behavior exists, action up to/and including termination of scholarship may occur.

*Terms and conditions of The Jim Collins Scholarship
are at the discretion of the CISD Board of Trustees.*