

The Dr. T. Ray Ruffin Scholarship

Presented and awarded in partnership with

Everlasting Life Christian Church



**2017
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
AND
INSTRUCTIONS**

Everlasting Life Christian Church (E.L.C.C.) is proud to announce that it has partnered with **Dr. T. Ray Ruffin**, educator and philanthropist, to offer scholarships to students for the current academic year. The application deadline is **Sunday, May 14, 2017 by 11:59 p.m.**. Late applications will not be accepted.

The Dr. T. Ray Ruffin Scholarship awards scholarships on the basis of a comprehensive process. Areas that are reviewed by the scholarship committee include, but are not limited to the following: Academic Accomplishments, Community Services, Personal References, Personal Essays and Financial Need. The Dr. T. Ray Ruffin Scholarship is awarded without regard to race, color, ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation. Scholarships awarded are based upon the availability of funds and additional qualifying criteria.

The scholarship(s) will be presented at the **Annual Everlasting Life Christian Church Pastoral Anniversary Celebration**. The celebration will be held on **Saturday, June 17, 2017**. The place and time will be shared with all scholarship awardees and donor(s) upon award notification. The actual award will be provided directly to the recipient, who must have at least one year of school remaining and provide accurate information in their Scholarship Application. Each applicant must use and place their legal name on the application.

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education” (Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)

“This scholarship was established based on the belief that each one should reach one concept: to give back to an individual in need and to inspire him or her to reach their goals, so when the time arises, they are prepared to “pay it forward” and assist another individual in need. As the bible states, ‘to whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required’ (Luke 12:48).”(KJV) - Dr. T. Ray Ruffin

Program Guidelines & Priorities:

- Seeking high school graduating seniors and college students with a record of volunteerism in the community in non-school sponsored activities and participation in extracurricular school activities.
- Applicants must have a minimum 2.75/4.0 or 3.75/5.0 Grade Point Average (GPA).
- Applicant must include proof of acceptance to an accredited college, university, or trade school.
- Critical financial need (\$75,000 or less adjusted gross family income preferred, if higher an explanation must be provided).
- Provide official high school, community college, college, trade school, and university transcript in a sealed envelope from the granting institution.
- High School applicants must have the endorsement of their Guidance Counselor on their application attesting they are a qualified applicant for this scholarship program. ***Dr. T. Ray Ruffin Scholarship and E.L.C.C. strongly suggests that each high school, community college, college, trade school, and university programs present this opportunity to all applicants that match this program’s guidelines.***

Scholarship Awards:

- Awardees will be notified on or before **June 1, 2017**.
- Scholarships will be awarded by December of the current year.
- Students can reapply for scholarships the following year as long as they meet the Scholarship Application requirements and criteria.
- Acceptance of the scholarship award grants E.L.C.C. the right to use pictures and names of students in any media, website or e-mail correspondences

Step One: Eligibility Criteria

- Be currently enrolled full-time student (12 semester hours or equivalent), graduating high-school student, undergraduate or graduate student with at least one more year of school remaining.
- If a high-school student, you must provide evidence along with your Scholarship Application that you have been accepted into a college or university (i.e. Acceptance Letter, or Class Schedule) for the upcoming academic semester.
- Applicants must demonstrate a need for financial assistance.
- Student must apply and confirm submission of their Federal Student Aid Application Form (FAFSA).
- Proof of acceptance into a community college, college or university, or trade school for post-secondary studies (i.e. letter of acceptance, copy of class schedule)
- If applicant is awarded a scholarship, ten volunteer hours per academic year must be worked in a Christian Faith based or Community Organization.
- Volunteer hours are counted beginning May 1st in the spring and ending April 1st the following year.
- All scholarship recipients will discuss their plan for how they will meet their service requirement with the E.L.C.C. Scholarship Committee sometime after accepting the scholarship, but before the start of the semester.
- There is no minimum eligibility age.
- Award recipients must be available to attend, with at least one parent or guardian, the awards reception and other recognition events.

Submit the scholarship by the deadline via web or mail.

Online Scholarship Application: www.ELChristianChurch.com

Mailing Address: Attn: E.L.C.C. Scholarship Committee

PO Box 191

Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

This includes completed application, essay, resume, school transcript, recommendation letter, and signoff by Guidance Counselor for high school students.

The applications will be reviewed and recipients selected by a committee consisting of volunteers from E.L.C.C. Each submission is examined for completeness and accuracy. The E.L.C.C. Scholarship Committee can enlist others to be a part of this Committee or provide input at their sole discretion.

Applications may be downloaded from the E.L.C.C. website at <http://www.ELChristianChurch.com> or e-mailed to you. Please send your requests or questions to: EVERLAST092109@yahoo.com

Please submit the following documents with your application:

- ❑ **Completed Scholarship Application.** Please type your responses, including "N/A" for items that are not applicable to you. The application must be completed in its entirety and submitted by **Sunday, May 14, 2017 by 11:59 p.m.**
- ❑ **Essay** with prepared answers in 1,000 words or less
- ❑ **One Letter of Recommendation**
- ❑ Current, **Unofficial Academic Transcript.**

IF Selected

- ❑ Current, **Official Academic Transcript.** You must request that your registrar send this to E.L.C.C. directly via email (EVERLAST092109@yahoo.com) or mail (PO Box 191 Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526) in a sealed envelope. *We will not accept student copies or other unofficial transcripts.* Most schools assess a nominal service charge to send official transcripts. Applicants are responsible for this fee. If mailed, your transcript should also be postmarked by the due date: **Thursday, June 15, 2017 by 11:59 p.m.**

Note: Students can request the recommendation letter be mailed directly to the address above or e-mailed to us.

*It is your responsibility to ensure that your registrar's office has enough time (usually three to four weeks) to get the required items to you or E.L.C.C. We can only accept original documents, so **you cannot fax materials to us.** E.L.C.C. is not responsible for items lost or improperly handled by the U.S. Postal Service.*

Please plan carefully so that your application receives the consideration it deserves.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Personal Information

Name _____
 Last First Initial

Permanent Address

_____ Street
 _____ City State Zip Code

Telephone () _____

Current Address

_____ Street
 _____ City State Zip Code

Telephone () _____ E-Mail _____

School/College/University name currently attending: _____

School/College/University Address _____

Expected graduation date _____ Expected degree _____ Major _____

Grade Point average (GPA)(as of application date): _____ Overall GPA: _____ Scale: _____

Name of colleges/universities attended or expected to attend for High School students:

_____ School

_____ Years attended	_____ Certificate/Degree
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Name of other colleges/universities attended (cont'd):

_____ School	_____ City/State
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_____ Years attended	_____ Certificate/Degree
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Date of Birth _____ Prior Year Taxable Guardian or Individual Income \$ _____
 (This can be found on **line 37** of Tax Form 1040)

Marital Status _____

Number of Dependent Children _____

Are you a U.S. Citizen? (Y/N) _____

If not, do you have a permanent resident visa? (Y/N) _____ Visa number _____
(Attach a photocopy of visa)

Ethnic Minority Group (check one):

- _____ African American _____ Asian _____ Caucasian
- _____ Hispanic _____ Native American _____ Middle Eastern
- _____ Other (explain) _____

EMPLOYMENT

Are you currently employed? No _____ Yes _____ Full-time _____ Part-time _____

Position _____ Number of hours worked per week _____

Employer

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Telephone Number

Have you applied for Financial Aid? Yes _____ No _____

Do you have a financial need for this Scholarship? Yes _____ No _____



Dr. T .Ray Ruffin Essay Page:1,000 words or less

Describe how volunteer or community service has shaped who you are today and what community service has taught you. Also, discuss in your essay about any challenges or obstacles you have dealt with and overcome in life and how this will help you succeed in college and beyond. What degree are you pursuing and how do you plan to use it to better our society and humanity? What are some of your goals and aspirations?

Please attach additional sheet if required.

APPLICANT'S CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

STATEMENT OF ACCURACY FOR STUDENTS

1. I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.
2. I also consent that if chosen as a scholarship winner my picture may be taken and used to promote the Foundation's scholarship program. (Winner may waive photo due to unusual or compelling circumstances.)
3. I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to Dr. T. Ray Ruffin Foundation Scholarship policy, I must be present at any potential awards ceremony, surprise, or reception to receive my scholarship award.
4. I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, according to Dr. T. Ray Ruffin Foundation Scholarship policy, it is my responsibility to remit to the Foundation the appropriate information for my scholarship to be paid directly to me or my educational institution by December of the current year.
5. I hereby understand I will not submit this application without all required attachments and supporting information. Incomplete applications or applications that do not meet eligibility criteria will not be considered for this scholarship.
6. If I am awarded a scholarship, I will provide satisfactory evidence, as required or requested by E.L.C.C., of my full-time enrollment during the period(s) for which the scholarship is awarded.
7. As a high school applicant my parent or guardian has reviewed and approved the submission of this application.

Printed name of scholarship applicant: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT BY GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

I hereby affirm that this application meets the criteria set forth by this scholarship program and that I support this application to Dr. T. Ray Ruffin Scholarship.

Name of Guidance Counselor submitting the application: _____

Name of High School: _____

Guidance Counselor Contact information:

School Email: _____

School Phone: _____

Signature of Submitting Guidance Counselor: _____

Date: _____

Name of Collegiate Advisor/Counsel: _____

Name of attending community colleges/ colleges/ trade schools/ or universities:

Application Checklist

- Completed Scholarship Application
- Completed Essay
- Guidance Counselor Signature
- Collegiate Advisor/Counselor Signature
- Official High School or College Transcript
- Letter of Recommendation

MAIL COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKAGE TO THE FOUNDATION AT:

**EELC Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 191
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526**

REMINDER:

The deadline for this application to be received by:

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2017, 11:59 p.m.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

Thank you for applying

