

# **Cattle Raisers Foundation Scholarship Endowment Program's Frequently Asked Questions**



## **What is the mission and purpose of the Foundation's Scholarship Endowment Program?**

To the greatest extent possible, the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Foundation (the "Foundation" or "TSCRF") will provide scholarship opportunities for college students pursuing careers in the beef cattle and ranching industry.

The Foundation serves young men and women of high ability who wish to pursue an education for a career in the beef industry. Students may come from all economic and ethnic backgrounds, and from all parts of Texas and Oklahoma. Investments in support of student financial aid help assure that students who benefit from the Foundation scholarships are able to meet the necessary expenses of attending college.

Scholarship gifts are an investment in the lives of deserving young men and women of ability and determination; and they are an investment in the Foundation's role in the industry. Scholarship funds will be given to students (through their respective schools) in order to advance the future of the livestock industry in the Southwest, and to inspire young people who pursue careers in agricultural fields including Animal Science, Agribusiness, Range Management, Wildlife Management, or large animal Veterinary Medicine.

## **What are the types of endowment scholarship funds?**

### **Named Endowment Scholarships**

This type of fund establishes an individual scholarship that will benefit future generations in perpetuity. Benefactors of the named endowment scholarship may establish the scholarship in their own name or in memory or honor of another. Named Endowment Scholarship donors may select preferential award criteria. The endowed fund's principal stays intact permanently with a percentage of the earnings allocated for scholarship support. A named endowment scholarship is established with a minimum gift of \$50,000.

### **General Endowment Scholarships**

This fund enables the TSCRF to pool the resources of many donors to make awards wherever the need is greatest. The fund provides both merit and need-based assistance to those who dream of obtaining a college degree in an agriculture-related program. Scholarships are awarded to students who meet the established criteria of the TSCRF Scholarship Program. The number of scholarships and amount given will vary based subject to the fund's earnings. Gifts of any amount are welcome.

## **Why are endowed funds important?**

Endowed scholarship funds are designed to be permanent and perpetual. The principal of the fund is invested to produce income, and an annual award is made to a student. The principal stays untouched, so the endowment is sustained.

## **What is the annual percentage of distribution for a named endowed scholarship fund?**

In order to help assure that today's endowment will also serve tomorrow's needs, a portion of the return from endowed scholarship funds will be added back to the fund. In conformity with this policy, it is anticipated that scholarship distributions will be equal to 4-5% of the fund's value each year.

## **Who manages the Cattle Raisers Foundation and scholarship endowment investments?**

The Foundation adheres to an appropriate investment policy for endowed scholarship funds as established by the TSCRF Investment Committee. The Foundation's investments are currently managed by Luther King Capital Management of Fort Worth, Texas.

## **How is the endowed scholarship named?**

The scholarship's name is selected by the benefactor, in consultation with the Foundation's office staff.

## **May I establish scholarship criteria?**

Named endowment scholarship donors may select preferential award criteria such as a declared major, specific geographic region of Texas or Oklahoma, etc.

## **How soon will an award be distributed following the establishment of the named endowment scholarship fund?**

Generally, named endowment scholarship awards are distributed a minimum of one year after the corpus (base level of \$50,000) is fully funded. An exception is made if the donor wants the scholarship to be activated sooner and elects to make a separate gift equivalent to the desired award, which is then distributed to a qualifying recipient for the academic year immediately following the donor's contribution.

## **Can my named endowment scholarship gift be funded over a multiple number of years?**

Yes, named endowment scholarships may be funded up to a 4-year commitment. However, the threshold amount must be received within four years from the date of commitment. During the payment period all returns will be added back to the corpus of the endowment until the threshold amount is reached. Donors who wish to see scholarships awarded immediately may make an additional gift to the fund for such purpose.

## **What is the length of time that a named endowment scholarship is awarded?**

A named scholarship awarded to a student is renewable for four years as long as requirements are met.

## **What happens to my gift if I am unable to completely fund a named scholarship?**

If a donor is unable to completely fund a named scholarship fund within four years, gifted funds will be reallocated to the general endowment scholarship fund.

## **Is there a reason that a scholarship may not be awarded?**

Yes. A scholarship may not be awarded if there are no applications received meeting the criteria established by the donor. A named scholarship will also not be awarded if the recipient fails to meet the expectations and requirements of the scholarship (for example – the minimum GPA).

## **Can I make contributions to a named endowment scholarship?**

Yes. Contributions can be made by anyone interested in contributing to a named fund.

## **How will my named endowment scholarship gift be recognized?**

Benefactors for all endowment funds will be listed in publications of the Foundation and will have their names displayed within the Cattle Raiser's Museum in Fort Worth.

## **Who selects the scholarship recipients?**

Each spring, the *Foundation's Scholarship Committee* receives close to 100 applications. The committee reviews the applications and selects recipients whose intentions are to make careers in the livestock industry and carry forward the values and skills associated with the cattle raising profession. Selections are based on donor-established criteria and in line with the overall criteria of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Foundation Scholarship Program.

## **What is the overall criteria of the TSCRF Scholarship Program?**

- ◆ Accepted or enrolled at an accredited university in Texas or Oklahoma
- ◆ Intention to pursue a career in agriculture or related program (*Animal Science, Pre-Vet, Agribusiness, Range Management or Wildlife*)
- ◆ U.S. citizen and a resident of Texas or Oklahoma
- ◆ A member (or member-sponsored) of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association
- ◆ Cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- ◆ Financial need
- ◆ Beef cattle production background
- ◆ Good moral character/ethical standards

*Scholarships are awarded without regard to race, gender, religion or ethnicity.*

## **Join Us in Supporting the Cattle Raisers Foundation Scholarship Endowment Campaign.**

*For more information on how to make donations and gifts to the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Foundation, please contact Sherry Flow, Associate Director, at [sflow@cowgirl.net](mailto:sflow@cowgirl.net) or (817) 509-8981.*