

# **HomeStar Education Foundation, Inc.**

## **Scholarship Program**

### **Application**

#### **2011-2012 Academic Year**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The HomeStar Education Foundation annually awards academic scholarships to the children or grandchildren of HomeStar Bank, HomeStar Investment Services, HomeStar Insurance Services or HomeStar Trust customers. The scholarship program helps graduating high school seniors continue their education at a university, college, trade or vocational school. The scholarships are awarded based on positive leadership and character exhibited in school and community activities. A scholarship selection committee of HomeStar employees administers the application process and selects the scholarship recipients. The name of each scholarship applicant is concealed from the scholarship selection committee to ensure that the recipients are selected entirely on their merits.

#### **SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT**

Each recipient of the HomeStar Education Foundation scholarship will receive an \$8,000.00 scholarship (\$2,000.00 per year for four years).

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

- Any high school senior whose parent or grandparent is a customer of HomeStar Bank and Financial Services is eligible to apply for the scholarship.
- Applicants must have maintained a minimum of a 2.5 cumulative grade point average (based on 4.0) through the seventh semester of high school.
- Applicants must plan to enroll full-time at an accredited two- or four-year college, university or trade/vocational school in the United States. Proof of enrollment will be required for release of scholarship payment after the award is announced.

- For those recipients of the scholarship, the parent or grandparent must maintain or expand their relationship with HomeStar Bank and Financial Services while the scholarship recipient is in college and receiving the scholarship money.
- In the event the applicant is selected to receive the scholarship, the recipient shall open a checking, savings or investment account at HomeStar Bank and Financial Services and the scholarship money shall be deposited into the recipient's account upon the receipt of the funds.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of the following:

1. Positive leadership and character exhibited in both academic and extracurricular school activities.
2. Positive leadership and character exhibited in community and/or religious activities.
3. The positive impact the applicant has had on others.
4. Part time/ full time employment.
5. Financial need.

To continue to receive the annual \$2,000.00 scholarship payments, scholarship recipients must maintain and provide HomeStar with proof of a "C" average or better at their school, have full-time student status and provide proof of continuing enrollment.

## **APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES**

Applicants must submit a **typed or word-processed application form**, consisting of the following:

1. Cover Sheet/Student Information;
2. Academic Information/Post-High School Education Plans;
3. School and Extracurricular Activities (including essay);
4. Community Service and/or Church Involvement (including essay);
5. Two letters of recommendation; and
6. An official transcript for 7 semesters of high school.

Applicants may also provide a typed response to the optional essay question.

Please note that the applicant's name should appear only on the Cover Sheet/Student Information page. Student identification numbers will be assigned to each applicant by the scholarship selection committee to ensure the scholarship recipients are selected entirely on their merits.

## **APPLICATION AVAILABILITY**

Applications are available in the HomeStar Bank and Financial Services office nearest you and on the HomeStar Bank web site, [www.HomeStarBank.com](http://www.HomeStarBank.com). Applicants may complete the application online going to [www.HomeStarBank.com](http://www.HomeStarBank.com) and then clicking on the link entitled "HomeStar Education Foundation Scholarship". The student may then print and complete the application and submit a signed copy. The format of the application may not be altered.

## **SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS TIMELINE**

- September 5 Applications will be available at local high schools. Interested seniors must consult the school's guidance counselor for completion of the Academic Information page.
- February 10 Application deadline. Applications may be either delivered in person to any HomeStar Bank and Financial Services location, or mailed to: HomeStar Bank and Financial Services, Marketing Department, 435 E. North Street, Bradley, IL 60915. Mailed applications must be postmarked by the deadline and received by February 17, 2012. All reference letters and transcripts must also be received by February 17, 2012.
- March A committee of HomeStar employees evaluates the applications and selects the scholarship recipients.
- April The selection committee announces the recipients. Recipients, non-recipients and the high school principals will be notified of the results.
- May Recipients will be recognized at their respective school's awards program.
- August First year award money presented to recipients upon proof of enrollment.
- July Recipients annually furnish the selection committee with proof of grade point average to ensure receipt of scholarship payments.
- (following year)*

# HomeStar Education Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Program

## COVER PAGE / STUDENT IDENTIFICATION

Date:

Student's name:

*First, Middle, Last*

Address:

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

Parents' Names:

Name on qualifying account:

Student

Parent

Grandparent

Which HomeStar division/affiliate is this account with?

HomeStar Bank

HomeStar Insurance Services

HomeStar Investment Services

HomeStar Trust Services

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Applicant ID no. \_\_\_\_\_

# HomeStar Education Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Program

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Class rank:                      Percentile:

Grade point average (through 7 semesters):

ACT composite score:                      SAT composite score:

### **Certification of academic information (*school official*):**

High school:

Principal:

Phone number:

Address:

Guidance Counselor:

Phone number:

*NOTE: Remember to furnish an official high school transcript for 7 semesters to verify a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (based on 4.0) or better.*

## POST-HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION PLANS

Name of school student plans to attend:

2-year college

4-year college

Trade/Vocational School

Course of study/major:

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Applicant ID no. \_\_\_\_\_





## **SCHOOL AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

**Part 2:** Please answer the following question in 250 words or less: **How have you provided leadership in these school and extracurricular activities?**

**Note: This form must be typed.**

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Applicant ID no. \_\_\_\_\_





## **COMMUNITY SERVICE AND/OR CHURCH INVOLVEMENT**

**Part 2:** Please answer the following question in 250 words or less: **How have you provided leadership in these community service and/or church activities?** **Note:** This form must be typed.

# HomeStar Education Foundation, Inc. Scholarship Program

## FULL TIME AND/OR PART TIME EMPLOYMENT

Please list any full and/or part time jobs you may have had and what your responsibilities are. You may photocopy this page if additional room is necessary. **Note: This form must be typed.**

Job #1

Position Held

Number of hours worked

Number of years employed

Responsibilities

Job #2

Position Held

Number of hours worked

Number of years employed

Responsibilities

Job #3

Position Held

Number of hours worked

Number of years employed

Responsibilities

# HomeStar Education Foundation, Inc.

## Scholarship Program

### HOUSEHOLD INCOME

One factor considered in awarding the HomeStar scholarships is financial need. Please check which of the following ranges represents your family's annual household income.

- Under \$15,000.00
- \$15,000.00 to \$35,000.00
- \$35,000.00 to \$55,000.00
- \$55,000.00 to \$75,000.00
- \$75,000.00 to \$95,000.00
- \$95,000.00 and above

### OPTIONAL ESSAY REGARDING FINANCIAL NEED/EXTREME OR UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES

You may answer this question if you wish, but it is not required. If you choose to answer, please answer the following question in 250 words or less: **What opportunities would this scholarship provide you that would otherwise not be available because of financial reasons or extreme or unusual family circumstances?**

### LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please include two letters of recommendation (one from school and one from community service activities and/or religious activities). These letters of recommendation should address your leadership and character traits. These reference letters will be edited to conceal your identity before presentation to the scholarship committee.

### SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR APPLICATION

In order for the applicant's application to be considered complete and evaluated by the scholarship selection committee, the applicant's signature and the signature of the account holder at HomeStar Bank and Financial Services are required.

**Applicant's Signature:** By signing, I agree to all of the following:

1. I certify that all of the statements made in this application for the HomeStar Education Foundation scholarship are true and correct and that my responses are my own.
2. I also acknowledge that all application materials submitted to HomeStar Bank and Financial Services, the HomeStar Education Foundation or their affiliates, subsidiaries or parent corporations become the property of the HomeStar Education Foundation and will not be returned.
3. Additionally, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I hereby grant HomeStar Financial Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries and affiliates, including but not limited to HomeStar Bank and HomeStar Education Foundation, Inc. the right to use of my name, likeness, picture, voice, or biographical information for the

purposes of advertising and in any promotional materials, newsletters, lobby displays, television advertisements or other promotional, informational or communication materials.

4. I acknowledge that federal statutes and regulations generally prohibit HomeStar Bank and Financial Services from publicly releasing any customer information, including acknowledging that someone is a customer. In the event I am eligible for the scholarship based on my status as an account holder with HomeStar Bank and Financial Services, and in the event I am selected as the recipient of the scholarship, I hereby authorize HomeStar Bank and Financial Services to release my name, likeness, picture or biographical information as a recipient of the scholarship and waive any potential objection I may have to the release of my name, likeness, picture or biographical information as a recipient of the scholarship, even though it may identify me as a customer of HomeStar Bank and Financial Services.

Agreed to and accepted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Account Holder's Signature:** By signing, I agree to all of the following:

I acknowledge that federal statutes and regulations generally prohibit HomeStar Bank and Financial Services from publicly releasing any customer information, including acknowledging that someone is a customer. In the event my child/grandchild is selected as the recipient of the scholarship, I hereby authorize HomeStar Bank and Financial Services to release my child/grandchild's name, likeness, picture or biographical information as a recipient of the scholarship and waive any potential objection I may have to the release of my child/grandchild's name, likeness, picture or biographical information as a recipient of the scholarship, even though it may identify me as a customer of HomeStar Bank and Financial Services.

Agreed to and accepted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_