

Ivah J. Pistono and Jesse Pistono Memorial Scholarship

Application

NOTES TO CANDIDATES FOR SCHOLARSHIP

You must submit your application and supporting materials to the Guidance Office no later than *March 15, 2021*. An application will not be considered unless ALL information is provided at the time of submission. Please keep a copy of your completed application.

Please contact First Bank Wealth Management Group regarding questions in completing your application. The application forms are available from the Guidance Office or by contacting Jill Bastian, First Bank Wealth Management Group at jill.bastian@fbol.com or (314) 889-1024.

The scholarship is to potentially provide one (1) four-year scholarship for tuition, books and fees (excluding housing) per year to a graduating senior of Christopher High School *or* West Frankfort High School who will be attending a college, university or trade school, has maintained a 3.00 GPA average or above/Letter Grade “B” or above and has financial need. The award amount will be determined by the amount of income available to distribute each year and may vary each semester.

Preference shall be given to a student attending SIU-Carbondale and/or McKendree University. In the event there are no students planning to attend these colleges, then to a student attending an accredited college, university or trade school will be selected. The award to a student not attending SIUC or McKendree University shall not exceed the tuition, books and fees for an in-state student attending SIUC or McKendree University.

A scholarship selection committee which consists of 3 board members will be established at Christopher High School and West Frankfort High School to review all applications. The committee will be comprised of the principal of Christopher High School and West Frankfort High School, a high school teacher and a guidance counselor selected each year by the principal of Christopher High School and West Frankfort High School. All applications will be reviewed by the committee and those which meet the eligibility requirements will be submitted to First Bank. ***The final award recipient and award amount will be determined by First Bank.*** There will only be one award recipient chosen per year, either from Christopher High School *or* West Frankfort High School.

The attached application shall be used and should include ACT and/or SAT scores, transcript, (2) teacher recommendations, student essay, school/community involvement, Student Aid Report, Expected Family Contribution, Household Financial Statement and Acceptance Letter from college.

Forfeiture of the scholarship award will occur if a recipient (i) does not attend a college, university, or trade school (ii) ceases to attend a college, university, or trade school continuously (excluding summer and interim breaks) (iii) ceases to maintain a 3.00 GPA average or above/Letter Grade “B” or above or (iv) financial information provided on this application cannot be verified or is inconsistent with the tax return(s).

The award is primarily based on financial need and student academic achievement; therefore, if selected, financial information will be verified by the parent(s) and student’s current year income tax return.

Applications will not be considered unless ALL information is provided to the Guidance Office prior to the deadline.

I, _____, have read and understand the conditions of the Ivah J. Pistono and Jesse Pistono Memorial Scholarship as explained in the *Notes to Candidates for Scholarship*. I give permission to officials of my institution to release transcripts of my academic record and other information requested for consideration in the Pistono Scholarship program. I understand the application and all attachments will be available only to the Scholarship Selection Committee in the course of their duties. If selected as a Pistono Scholar, I agree to provide official verification of continuous enrollment and prior semester grades to First Bank as required by the Scholarship criteria.

I affirm that this application, including the personal essay, is my own work or formally cited from other sources. I affirm the information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Date _____ Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____

I, _____, an official representative of Christopher High School or West Frankfort High School have reviewed and confirm the student's class rank, grade point average, and ACT/SAT scores as provided on page 3 of this application.

Name of High School _____

Representative's Signature _____

Title _____ Date _____

Do I meet the preliminary scholarship criteria? (All must apply.)

- I will graduate from Christopher High School or West Frankfort High School
- I have maintained a 3.00 GPA average or above/Letter Grade "B" or above
- I will provide an acceptance letter from the college I will be attending
- If selected, I will substantiate the financial information on this application by providing a copy of the parent(s) current income tax return. If not, why? _____
- If selected, I will substantiate the information on this application by providing a copy of the applicant's current income tax return. If not, why? _____

SECTION 1 - STUDENT INFORMATION

Legal Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____

High School Name _____

Class Rank _____ out of _____

Current Cumulative GPA: _____ on a 4.0 or 5.0 scale (circle one) Letter Grade: _____

SAT Scores: Composite Score _____ (200 to 1600)

Mathematics _____ Reading/Writing _____

ACT Scores: Composite Score _____ (1 to 36)

_____ English _____ Mathematics _____ Reading _____ Science

Will you be attending SIU-Carbondale or McKendree University ? Yes No

If no, where? _____

Will you be a full time student? Yes No

What is your major or area of interest? _____

What is the approximate cost of tuition per year? \$ _____

Where will you live during the school year?

_____ On Campus Estimated cost per year \$ _____

_____ Independently (Apartment or Rental Home) Monthly Rent \$ _____

_____ With Parents

SECTION 2 – PARENTAL INFORMATION

(You must complete this section even if you do not live with your parent(s). Refer to your parent(s) IRS tax return when necessary. If there are unusual circumstances, please explain on a separate sheet of paper.)

What is your parent(s) marital status as of today?

- Married/remarried
- Single
- Divorced/separated
- Widowed

Month and year your parents were separated, divorced or widowed? _____

Highest school year father completed

- Middle school/Jr. High
- High School
- College or beyond
- Other/Unknown

Highest school year mother completed

- Middle school/Jr. High
- High School
- College or beyond
- Other/Unknown

What was your parent(s) adjusted gross income for 2020? \$ _____
(Adjusted gross income is on IRS form 1040)

Parent's Employer (Father/Stepfather): _____

Occupation: _____

How much did your father/stepfather earn from working in 2020? _____
(Answer the question whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms)

Parent's Employer (Mother/Stepmother): _____

Occupation: _____

How much did your mother/stepmother earn from working in 2020? _____
(Answer the question whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms)

How many people are in your parent(s) household, including your parent(s)? _____

How many people in the question above will be college students in 2021 - 2022? _____

If more than the applicant, explain:

Is he/she receiving scholarships? _____ If so, what is the amount? _____

Are you, your parent(s) or anyone in your parent(s) household receiving benefits from any of the federal benefit programs listed?

- Supplemental Security Income
- Food Stamps
- Free or Reduced Price School Lunch
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

SECTION 3 – STUDENT INFORMATION

Have you completed a prior year IRS income tax return?

- Already completed
- Will file
- Will not file

What income tax return did you file or will you file for 2020?

- IRS 1040
- IRS 1040A, 1040 EZ
- Other _____

What was your adjusted gross income for 2020? \$ _____
(Adjusted gross income is on IRS form 1040)

Are you employed during the school year? _____
If so, what is the average number of hours you work per week? _____

Are you employed only in the summer? _____
If so, what is the average number of hours you work per week? _____

How much did you earn from working in 2020? \$ _____
(Answer the question whether or not a tax return was filed. This information may be on the W-2 forms.)

Student's Employer: _____

Occupation: _____

SECTION 4 – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER ANSWER THE FOLLOWING:

1. List high school activities (student government, sports, publications, school-sponsored community service programs, student-faculty committees, arts, music, etc.). List in descending order of significance.
2. List public service and community activities (homeless services, environmental protection/conservation, advocacy activities, work with religious organizations, etc.). Do not repeat items listed previously. List in descending order of significance.
3. List leadership positions held both in school and outside of school. List in descending order of significance.
4. Write a personal essay why a college education is important to you and how do you see it shaping your future? (700 - 1000 words)
5. If you or your family had unusual circumstances (such as loss of employment) or your financial situation has significantly changed since last year, please explain.

SECTION 5 – HOUSEHOLD FINANCIAL INFORMATION

INVESTMENT ASSETS	Parent(s) Assets	Student Assets
Cash Equivalents:		
Checking & Savings		
CDs		
Marketable Securities:		
Stocks		
Mutual Funds		
Bonds (taxable and non-taxable)		
Real Estate (other than residence):		
Farm		
Rental		
Other		
Residence (approximate market value)		
Retirement Assets		
College Savings Plan (example 529)		
Total Assets:		

LIABILITIES	Parent(s) Liabilities	Student Liabilities
Home Mortgage		
Credit Card Debt		
Car Loan(s)		
Rental Mortgage		
Other Debt (specify):		
Total Liabilities:		

I affirm the financial information contained herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I will provide supporting documentation, if requested by the Selection Committee, to substantiate this information for eligibility of this scholarship.

Date: _____ Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____ Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____ Parent's Signature: _____

Applications will not be considered unless ALL information is provided to the Guidance Office prior to the deadline. To ensure that you are not disqualified please be certain you have included all the required information by checking off each item:

- Completed Application
- SAT/ACT Score
- Transcript
- 2 Teacher Recommendations (Must be submitted in a sealed envelope)
- Student Essay
- High School Activities
- Leadership Positions
- Public Service and Community Activities
- Student Aid Report
- Expected Family Contribution Report
- Household Financial Information
- Financial Information
- Acceptance letter from the college or proof of registration

Ivah J. Pistono and Jesse Pistono
 Memorial Scholarship
 First Bank Wealth Management Group
 c/o Jill Bastian
 11901 Olive Blvd.
 Creve Coeur, MO 63141

**IVAH J. PISTONO AND JESSE PISTONO SCHOLARSHIP TRUST
 TEACHER RECOMMENDATION**

TEACHER: Please return this completed recommendation form in a sealed envelope to the applicant so the he or she may include it in one complete scholarship packet, which must be received with a postmark no later than **March 15, 2021**.

APPLICANT: Please complete the following information and give this recommendation for to the teacher who will recommend you.

Applicant Information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Social Security Number: _____

The Ivah J. Pistono and Jesse Pistono Trust Scholarship is awarded based on academic achievement, financial need, the potential for future academic excellence, proven leadership qualities, and involvement in community service and meaningful extracurricular activities. All applicants should possess above average records.

Please rank the applicant on the following:

	Outstanding	Excellent	Very Good	Average	Below Average
Initiative					
Originality & Creativity					
Ability to be analytical or critical					
Ability to communicate orally					
Ability to communicate in writing					
Level of enthusiasm and curiosity					
Maturity					

Any further comments you may have which will distinguish this applicant from others in the applicant pool are appreciated. Please give particular consideration to intelligence, leadership, creativity and capacity for intellectual development. Additional comments can be made on the bottom of this form or on a separate attached sheet.

Signature: _____

Position Held/Subject Taught: _____

School Phone Number: _____