

Mattawan Public Education Foundation
56720 Murray Street
Mattawan, Michigan 49071
(269) 668-3361

Strength & Determination Scholarship

\$1,500

The Strength & Determination Scholarship will be awarded to a graduating senior of Mattawan High School who demonstrates a valid and convincing financial need and has demonstrated achievement in the classroom with a GPA of 3.0 or above. It is intended to assist a graduate in pursuit of a college degree in a profession which emphasizes helping others such as, social work, teaching, healthcare (human and veterinarian), therapy, criminal justice, etc.

Scholarship/Essay Criteria:

- Explain your financial need for this scholarship.
- Indicate your academic grade point (must be at least 3.0).
- State your personal and career goals as well as what you hope to accomplish in life.
- Specify how the profession you've chosen will help others and the impact you would have on others.
- Express your thoughts on why you think you should be selected for this scholarship.
- List the service activities in which you have been involved during your high school years. These may include any school, community and church projects, or membership in any organization in which the mission was to benefit other people or groups of people.
- Reflect on one life experience and how it changed your life for the better.

How to Apply:

Create your application packet using the four-step format below. No handwritten applications will be accepted. Submit four copies of all pages of your application, blacking out your name everywhere it appears on reference forms and letters. Your application will not be accepted without all four copies (the high school office cannot make copies).

Application Format (Complete all four steps and then make four copies of the application packet):

1. Cover Sheet

- Type the **Name of the Scholarship** for which you are applying
- Type the **Last four digits of your Social Security Number** (NO NAME please as a blind process is used. Attach a sticky note with your name to the finished scholarship application so that the high school office secretary can log in your scholarship application.)
- Type your **Date of Birth**
- Type the **College or University you plan to attend**
- Type your **Major or Course of Study**

- Copy the **Scholarship/Essay Criteria** exactly as listed above

2. Essay

On a separate sheet, type your essay according to the specific scholarship criteria listed on your cover sheet.

- Use 12 pt. font
- Double space
- Two page maximum
- Be sure to include the last four digits of your social security number in upper right hand corner of each page.
- A title for your essay should be centered at the top of the first page.

3. Letters of Recommendation

- Enclose two character references from someone outside your family, such as a group leader, advisor, coach, pastor, employer, etc. Please include their address and phone number on each letter. Do not include more than one reference from a teacher. Teachers should use the MPEF recommendation form provided on the school website.

4. Submit Four Copies of your Application Packet

- Make four copies of your application packet and submit them to the high school office.
- Make sure to black out your name everywhere it appears on reference forms and letters.
- Your application packet will not be accepted without all four copies. The high school office cannot make copies.