

Greetings,

We write to share a major scholarship opportunity, the Coolidge Scholarship. "The Coolidge" is among America's most generous: a **full-ride** scholarship that covers a student's tuition, room, board, and expenses for **four years of undergraduate study**. Unlike other top scholarships, the Coolidge can be used by recipients at **any** accredited U.S. college or university. More information, including the application, is available at **coolidgescholars.org**.

Any high school junior who plans to enroll in college in the fall of 2022 and is an American citizen or legal permanent resident is eligible to apply (current high school seniors are *not* eligible to apply). All applications must be completed online and submitted by 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time, Wednesday, January 20, 2021.

Coolidge Scholars are selected based primarily on academic excellence. Secondary criteria include: an interest in public policy, an appreciation for the values President Coolidge championed, as well as humility and service. Today's competitive academic culture regrettably sometimes drives students to hype their accomplishments and pursue ambitious efforts merely to attain credentials. The Coolidge Scholarship pushes back on this trend. Successful candidates are indeed accomplished, but exhibit humility with respect to their achievements and pursue things of genuine interest to them regardless of the perceived prestige associated with the activity. A complete description of the scholarship's criteria is available at www.coolidgescholars.org/selection-criteria.

The scholarship program is administered by the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation, the official foundation dedicated to America's thirtieth president. The competition for the scholarship is indeed significant. Yet even students who do not win have told us they are glad they went through the application process because it helped prepare them for college applications later on. Furthermore, the Coolidge Foundation invites 100 of the top applicants to participate in its Coolidge Senators Program, which includes an all-expenses-paid Summit Weekend in Washington, D.C. and a one-time \$1,000 scholarship. Applicants who make it to the finalist level, but do not ultimately win the full scholarship, also receive a modest one-time finalist scholarship.

**Alert:** the application requires that applicants read President Coolidge's *Autobiography* and complete a few other reading assignments. While the book is not overly long, we encourage applicants to begin the application early so that they have plenty of time. *Candidates who begin the application at the last minute are unlikely to be successful.* 

We hope you will share this opportunity with outstanding high school juniors at your school. The scholarship application, along with additional information, can be accessed on our scholarship site: www.coolidgescholars.org. Please contact Rob Hammer at the Coolidge Foundation with any questions. Rob can be reached by email at coolidgescholars@coolidgefoundation.org or by phone at (202) 827-4291. Thank you in advance for helping to share this opportunity with your students.

With kind regards,

Matthew Denhart President Rob Hammer Program Director