

**JERRI WALKER DEPRIEST MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
**APPLICANT SELECTION CRITERIA**  
**Last updated 2-25-2020**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Jerri Walker DePriest Memorial Endowment Fund was established to 1) encourage and support graduating Dufur High School seniors in attending post-secondary academic institutions, which includes colleges, universities, and approved trades/technical schools, by offering tuition grants and 2) to understand and further the inspirational and caring philosophies of Jerri Walker DePriest.

Among the traits which set Jerri Walker DePriest apart were strength of character, determination to overcome obstacles, belief in the potential to succeed, reliability, promise, and an unending desire to help the Dufur community and its individuals. From volunteer high school activities and her cancer support group, to her good cheer and compassion at Kramer's Market during her final illness, she epitomized the spirit of Dufur, which this scholarship hopes to perpetuate in her memory.

**APPLICANT SELECTION CRITERIA:** Up to three selection committees, consisting of teachers, school administrators, endowment fund trustees, and citizens will evaluate applicants. Scholarship recipients will be selected from a cumulative score for their Written Application Packet, Essay, oral interviews, and community service records. Scholarship recipients will be identified each spring at the Dufur High School graduation ceremonies.

**Application Packet:** The application packet will be composed of the following items and presented in the following order:

1. Title page
2. Letter of application/introduction
3. Essay (Intro, body, conclusion)
  - a. Address the scholarship mission statement, responding to the following questions:
    - 1) What do you hope to accomplish with your secondary education?
    - 2) Where will you be attending college?
    - 3) Why did you select this college?
    - 4) How has your community helped you and what have you done in return?
    - 5) What is the most important lesson you received at Dufur High School?
    - 6) Why would this scholarship be special to you?
4. Community Service – present a log listing dates, type of service, and total hours of community service
5. A copy of your high school transcript reflecting your whole high school experience
6. At least two letters of reference
7. Any additional supporting information you wish to include

**Please Note:** Incomplete applications will not be reviewed by the selection committee. Once submitted, a 24-hour grace period will be given to students to submit any missing items.

Each applicant will be evaluated in the following areas:

**Essay:** Each applicant should carefully consider and document their personal values and objectives in responding to the application questions. The written application essay should be very thorough, clearly demonstrate conformance with the scholarship mission statement and respond concisely to each question. The written essay should communicate the applicant's desire and justification for a scholarship to the selection committee. (100 points)

**Application Packet:** The application packet will be evaluated on its completeness, if it is presented in order, the quality and message presented in the documents, and the relevance of additional material.

**Community Service:** Each applicant shall prepare and present a summary of their community service activities for their four high school years. Volunteer vouchers should typically be collected and verified by Student Supervisors throughout all high school years. New students may summarize activities from their prior high school and provide confirming references to receive similar credit. A summary of dates, hours worked, type of work, and total hours worked should be submitted. This criterion is intended to provide an incentive for Community service, recognize and reward a charitable reputation in the Dufur community, and further student's inspirational and caring philosophy for the community and school.

**Oral Interview:** Each applicant will complete an oral interview with the selection committee. During the oral interview, each applicant will be asked questions to evaluate their personal philosophies, their future intentions, their demonstrated commitment to be successful in college, and their general qualifications to receive a scholarship under the stated selection criteria.

#### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Each applicant must be a graduating senior from Dufur High School and planning to attend an accredited post secondary program on a full time basis. Applicants must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) in high school of at least 2.0. Successful applicants will receive a proportionate share of their scholarship only after successfully completing each term/semester of their program, continuing full time enrollment, and maintaining a minimum GPA of 2.0.

#### **DUE DATE:**

Application packets are due by the end of school on the first Thursday in May of each year. Deliver your materials to the superintendent's office. Interviews will be scheduled during the second week of May and be held at Dufur School in the conference room.