

Bill & Peg Rees Scholarship Application

Bill & Peg Rees Scholarship Advisory Committee
c/o Onward! A Legacy Foundation
33 N. Chestnut, Cortez, CO 81321

The Bill and Peg Rees Scholarship was established in 2002. Bill was born and raised in Cortez and after finishing high school he moved to the Denver area where he eventually established a very successful series of health food stores. He and his wife 'Auntie Peg' had no children of their own but they loved and appreciated youth. They moved back to Cortez when they retired. They believed in the future of youth from Southwest Colorado and wanted to support ambitious youth with potential in reaching their dreams. So they established an endowment through the estate as a scholarship fund, which is managed by Onward! A Legacy Foundation.

The Bill and Peg Rees Scholarship may be awarded to any graduate of the five high schools in Montezuma and Dolores Counties – Dolores RE4A, Mancos, Cortez RE6, Southwest Open High School, and Dolores County High School in Dove Creek. The purpose of the scholarship is to offer significant financial aid to students who have a clear goal for their education after high school and who demonstrate both financial need and the ambition and potential to achieve their goal. One full scholarship a year is awarded that is \$2000 a year and can be renewed for three years (an \$8,000 scholarship) upon demonstration by the recipient that their goals and potential is still being pursued each year.

The Bill & Peg Rees Scholarship Fund provides renewable scholarships of approximately a thousand dollars a semester for four years (\$2000/year).

Successful applicants must be graduates of high schools in Dolores or Montezuma counties. Other requirements include:

- Clearly communicated educational goals and objectives
- Significant financial need
- Strong academic performance
- Participation in various school activities
- Diverse community involvement
- Self awareness

It is not necessary to be a recent high school graduate. Applicants who have graduated several years ago can apply for a Bill Rees Scholarship if they meet the above criteria.

This is how the Bill & Peg Rees Scholarship program works:

1. The deadline for completed applications is April 1.
2. An electronic application form in Microsoft Word format is available from the Scholarship Advisory Committee, local high school career counselors and the Southwest Colorado Community College Financial Aid Offices. The applicant can open the computer file and fill out the application. The completed application including additional, required documents is to be mailed to the address listed above.
3. The Scholarship Advisory Committee reviews and evaluates each application based on specific criteria listed above.

4. Based on the Scholarship Advisory Committee evaluation, the applicant will be awarded a scholarship or other career development assistance to be applied to tuition or for other approved purposes.
5. The scholarship recipients will be honored at local award ceremonies.
6. Letters of award confirmation will describe administrative details of the award.
7. The Scholarship Advisory Committee will be in contact with the Rees Scholarship recipients throughout the year and with a care package or two.
8. The Bill & Peg Rees Scholarship Advisory Committee will never sell or provide ANY information to list companies or other organizations. We consider your information to be confidential and we will keep all submitted information private.

The Bill Rees Scholarship Committee will interview informally the top candidates to learn more about educational and personal goals, financial need, and characteristics of the candidates that are difficult to convey in a written application.

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APPLICATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS:

1. ***This application may seem long; but the potential total amount for four years is \$8000. Please give your utmost effort to completing it well.***
2. All Application items may not apply to you, but it is important to complete as much information as possible.
3. Handwritten applications **WILL NOT** be accepted.
4. Incomplete applications **MAY NOT** be accepted.
5. Fill in the blanks where indicated and instructed. A ***brief answer*** is one or two sentences. A ***short answer*** is two or three paragraphs or less than 150 words.
6. **SUBMITTAL DEADLINE IS APRIL 1.** All items except for test scores must be submitted by this date. Except as expressly permitted by the Bill and Peg Rees Scholarship Advisory Committee, no other additional information may be submitted after this date.

Please send completed application form to:
Onward! A Legacy Foundation
Bill & Peg Rees Scholarship Advisory Committee
33 North Chestnut
Cortez, CO 81321

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PART THREE - Additional Submittal Requirements

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED WITH YOUR APPLICATION AS YOUR COMPLETE APPLICATION PACKAGE. PLEASE PLACE ALL ITEMS IN A FOLDER OR BINDER WITH A CLEAR PLASTIC COVER, IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER:

1. The completed application form.
2. Your resume.
3. An official copy of your school transcript.
4. Letters of Recommendation
 - A. A letter of recommendation from a *teacher in your area of interest*.
 - B. A letter from a *mentor or an advisor*.
 - C. If you have work experience, the Committee expects a letter from an employer(s). They should tell us about your aspirations and how you have shown the ability to reach your goals through your work experiences. They should briefly describe their relationship with you.

Do not include letters from parents, family friends, pastors or ministers.