

CHATTANOOGA-HAMILTON COUNTY
RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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**MARGARET FERGER SCHOLARSHIP FOR FUTURE TEACHERS**

**About the Scholarship Fund**

The Margaret Ferger Scholarship honors a life-long and dedicated teacher in the Chattanooga Public Schools. Due to her generosity, the Chattanooga Hamilton County Retired Teachers Association (CHCRTA) established this scholarship to acknowledge her passion for teaching and to encourage high school students to pursue a career as a classroom teacher. In 2018, the scholarship is a one-time award in the amount of \$1,500 to a maximum of three recipients. The award will be sent to the college upon verification of college enrollment. The criteria, rubric, and other details are provided annually to HCDE School Counselors and HCDE College Advisors.

**Scholarship Criteria**

- Applications are accepted from any high school senior graduating, in good standing, in the Class of 2018 from a public school in Hamilton County. The applicant must have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.50, with equal consideration to all applicants meeting the GPA requirement.
- Applicants must demonstrate a desire to enter the teaching profession, preferably in Hamilton County.
- Applicants must be accepted by and attend a regionally accredited, non-proprietary, community or four year college in the fall following his/her high school graduation.

**In order to be considered for this scholarship, applicants must submit the application along with the following information.**

- An official high school transcript which includes cumulative GPA and ACT/SAT score(s).
- A typed two page essay (Essay details below.)
- One to two page resume, using a bullet point format. Include educational background, extra-curricular activities, work experience, community involvement, awards, accomplishments, etc. Examples of a 'bullet point resume format' are available on the Internet.
- One letter of recommendation from a classroom teacher, principal or school counselor who knows the applicant's academic ability, work ethic and character. The letter must be typed on the school's letterhead paper.

**Student Essay**

Essay Title: Why I Desire To Become A Teacher.

The reasons to become a teacher are endless! Perhaps it is a career compatible with one's personal skills, interests and strengths. It may be the satisfaction of having a rewarding job, the chance to become a lifelong learner or because the applicant was encouraged or inspired by a teacher, parent or friend. Other reasons include historical events or issues and the opportunity to influence the future.

- Essay format: Double spaced, Times New Roman 11 or 12 point font, one-inch top, bottom, and side margins.
- Length: Approximately 500+ words, with a maximum length of two page typed essay.
- Compliance: No identifying information on the essay such as the name of the student's school, student's name, etc.
- Scoring Guide: Refer to the CHCRTA Scholarship Essay Rubric.

**Mailing Instructions**

- The scholarship application and supporting documents including the essay must arrive in one packet.
- Do not place the application in a special folder or staple documents together; use paper clips to keep materials in order.
- It is best to use an envelope that will hold the application without folding it, but not required.
- To be considered for the Margaret Ferger Scholarship, mail the application in its entirety and submit it to the following address. The packet must be received by Thursday, April 12, 2018 at 5:00 pm. Emailed, faxed, late and/or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Chattanooga Hamilton County Retired Teachers Association  
c/o Dr. Margaret M. Smith, Scholarship Chair  
190 Woodcliff Circle  
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

**Selection and Presentation**

- Recipients are selected by members of the CHCRTA Scholarship Committee; the decisions of the judges are final.
- Each school with a scholarship recipient will be notified in time for the presentation of the scholarship on its Awards Day.
- A certificate will be presented on Awards Day or another designated time set by the high school faculty. If preferred, a representative from CHCRTA will gladly present the scholarship. The award will be sent to the college upon verification of college enrollment.
- Each recipient of the scholarship and his or her parents or guardians will be invited to attend the CHCRTA meeting in August where he or she will be presented to the CHCRTA members.

**Scholarship Myths**

*"I'll never win one, so what's the point?"*

*"I don't have time to apply."*

*"Only students with a 4.0 GPA receive scholarships."*

The value of the Margaret Ferger Scholarship Award is \$1,500. If a scholarship recipient spends five hours completing the application, that is equivalent to earning \$400 per hour. To look at it another way, if the applicant has a job making minimum wage @ \$7.25, how many hours will it take to earn \$1,500.00\*

*"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover."— Mark Twain*

# MARGARET FERGER SCHOLARSHIP FOR FUTURE TEACHERS

## APPLICATION

Type or neatly print the application.

|                            |               |          |        |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------|--------|
| Student's Full Name:       |               |          |        |
| Street Address:            |               | Apt. No. |        |
| City:                      | State:        | Zip:     |        |
| Phone:                     |               |          |        |
| Email Address:             |               |          |        |
| Date of Birth:             | U.S. Citizen? |          | Yes No |
| Parent or Guardian's Name: |               |          | Phone: |

## School Information

Print all responses.

Print all responses.

|                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| School:                              |        |
| School Address:                      |        |
| Principal's Name:                    | Phone: |
| Name of School Counselor:            | Phone: |
| Name of College Access Counselor:    | Phone: |
| Date of School's Awards Program:     | Time:  |
| Location of School's Awards Program: |        |

**I do state the above information is accurate to the best of my knowledge.**

|                                                                                                                                                                                     |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| <u>Signature of Applicant</u>                                                                                                                                                       | Date: |
| <u>Signature of Parent</u>                                                                                                                                                          | Date: |
| Scholarship application packet must be <u>received</u> by Thursday, April 12, 2018 @ 5:00 pm.<br>Emailed, faxed, late and/or incomplete applications will <b>not</b> be considered. |       |

Contact Dr. Margaret M. Smith, Scholarship Chair, for more information.  
423-886-6666 or mmsmith27@epbfi.com

### CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANTS:

Complete scholarship application with the following supplemental information.

- o The Margaret Ferger scholarship application.
- o An official transcript.
- o A resume using a bullet point format.
- o An essay titled "Why I Desire To Become A Teacher."
- o One letter of recommendation.

Mail to:  
Chattanooga Hamilton County Retired Teachers Association  
c/o Dr. Margaret M. Smith, Scholarship Chair  
190 Woodcliff Circle  
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

\*1,500 ÷ Minimum Wage @ \$7.25 = More than 200 hours of work.

## CHCRTA Scholarship Essay Rubric

| Category                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Total Pts. Awarded per Category | Pts. Awarded | →Points to be Awarded←<br>5-4*                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Points to be Awarded<br>3-2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Points to be Awarded<br>1-0                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Compliance</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Max. Pts.: 3                    |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | No identifying information on the essay, such as the name of the student's school, student's name, etc.                                                                                                                                                    | Identifying information is included on the essay, such as the name of the student's school, scholarship applicant's name, etc.                                                                                                                |
| <b>Format</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Max. Pts.: 5                    |              | Essay is a maximum of two pages. Double spaced, Times New Roman font, 11 or 12 point font , 1" margins. Approximately 500 words.                                                                                                           | Essay is one page or slightly more and/or follows some format guidelines.                                                                                                                                                                                  | Essay is less than one page and/or fails to meet format guidelines.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Grammar</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Max. Pts.: 5                    |              | <p>No run-on sentences; no sentence fragments.</p> <p>No use of contractions.</p> <p>Subject/verb agreement and correct verb tense usage.</p> <p>Punctuation is correct.</p> <p>Capitalization is correct.<br/>Spelling is error-free.</p> | <p>Two or fewer run-on sentences or sentence fragments.</p> <p>Subject/verb agreement and verb tense are occasionally incorrect.</p> <p>Punctuation errors are minor.</p> <p>Capitalization is mostly correct.</p> <p>Less than three spelling errors.</p> | <p>Run-on sentences or sentence fragments.</p> <p>Extensive use of contractions.</p> <p>Subject/verb agreement and verb tense are incorrect.</p> <p>Punctuation errors.</p> <p>Capitalization is incorrect.<br/>Numerous spelling errors.</p> |
| <b>Response to Essay Question</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                 |              | The essay completely responds to the question and provides elaboration and details which enhance message.                                                                                                                                  | The essay addresses the question only minimally and has left portions either undeveloped or incompletely developed.                                                                                                                                        | The essay does not address the question or prompt.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Quotes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Max. Pts.: 5                    |              | Quotes are relevant, and citations are included which clearly note the source.                                                                                                                                                             | Quote(s) are included but either do not provide citations or are not clearly related to the content presented.                                                                                                                                             | Quotes are not included, or quotes are not appropriate or relevant. Any citations, if present, do not give credit to the source.                                                                                                              |
| <b>Content</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Max. Pts.: 5                    |              | Content of essay is well-developed, logical and persuasive.                                                                                                                                                                                | Content is incomplete in some areas and/or not well-developed. Although some information is accurate, details are not accurate or are missing.                                                                                                             | Content is not well-developed and does not support the topic being addressed.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Organization</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Max. Pts.: 5                    |              | Main idea (thesis) is clear. Topic sentences in body paragraphs strongly support main idea (thesis). Concluding sentences are used. Transitions are used to create smooth flow of ideas.                                                   | Some organization is present, but main ideas are not clearly stated. Essay does not follow a clear organizational pattern.                                                                                                                                 | Organization is lacking. Structure of essay is not easy to follow.                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Professional Commitment</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | *Max. Pts.: 7                   |              | <p>Demonstrates a deep commitment to the teaching profession and a desire to become a life-long learner.*</p> <p>*A max. of 7 pts. may be awarded for this category.</p>                                                                   | Demonstrates an average level of interest in the teaching profession, but a limited level of passion and curiosity.                                                                                                                                        | Appears uninterested and minimally reflects on experiences, learning, practices and understandings.                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Total Points</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>40 pts.</b>                  |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <p><b>Judges:</b> Based on your reading of the essay, award points ranging from 5 - 0 in each category*. Place the total points on the space provided in the left column.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Total possible points for the essay = 40 .</b></p> |                                 |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |