

IRHA Scholarships Information

The Iowa Ranch Horse Association is again offering a scholarship program in order to reward the youth of our industry. This program will honor youth for their achievements both in the classroom as well as in the arena. Scholarships are awarded at the Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet.

In order to be eligible for an IRHA Scholarship, the youth or young adult **MUST** be a **CURRENT YEAR** member of IRHA for the year the scholarship will be awarded (2009). Any high-school senior (or home schooled student of comparable level) is eligible, as well as a student currently enrolled as an undergraduate in post-secondary education, such as college, university, or technical program, with at least one year remaining in the program. Students are eligible through the age of 21.

In order to apply for an IRHA Scholarship, a student must first complete an application form, which can be found on the following page, or download one off the IRHA website, www.iowaranchhorse.com. The information on the application **MUST** be typed, or printed clearly in blue or black ink. There are also several brief short-answer questions to be answered on a separate sheet; the responses to these questions **MUST** be typed. Applicants must submit the application, answers to the questions, a copy of their transcripts (High School for HS students; College for college students; unofficial copies are allowed), and a letter of recommendation from a non-relative that has known the applicant for at least three years.

Once all of the necessary material has been collected, applicants are to submit their packet to Janell Ramsey no later than November 1, 2009. An anonymous committee will review each application, and recipients will be notified at the Annual Meeting. Checks will be distributed by the end of the year.

The number of scholarships, as well as the amount, will be determined based on the amount of available funds in the Scholarship Fund by April 1. Each year, at least ONE \$250 scholarship is guaranteed to be awarded. A portion of the Fund will be 'rolled over' to next year, to ensure growth and continuation of this project. Scholarships are not renewable from year to year; if a 2008 winner wishes to receive an IRHA Scholarship in 2009, they must re-apply, and they are not guaranteed to receive another award. A student is only eligible to win TWO IRHA Scholarships in their academic careers.

Please note that this scholarship is **NOT** based strictly on IRHA involvement and success! Equal weight will be given to scholastic performance, general community involvement, other equine activities, and IRHA activities. The goal is to reward not only good horse-people, but also well-rounded individuals who will make a positive impact on our industry and our society in the future.

IRHA members are encouraged to help support the Scholarship Program! Donations are always encouraged and welcomed. More information on this program can be found accompanying the application.