



RIO GRANDE VALLEY

LEAD

LINKING ECONOMIC & ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

In the business of education

RGV LEAD ANNOUNCES THE 24th ANNUAL RGV LEAD SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

The RGV LEAD Scholarship is for \$5,000 to be paid out over two years. Continuation funding for this scholarship is contingent on compliance with performance requirements explained to the scholarship recipient in a written communication provided by RGV LEAD. Questions regarding requirements can be directed to RGV LEAD, and a representative of RGV LEAD will respond. The decision of RGV LEAD's Director is final.

The scholarship recipient may be invited to participate in an awards ceremony sponsored by the RGV LEAD Board. In addition, the recipient may also be honored during a ceremony at his/her high school and may have his/her picture featured in RGV LEAD and/or local publications.

Important Information:

The application deadline is March 29, 2024, by 4:00 pm (no exceptions). Please read all instructions carefully. Incomplete, late, and/or applications that are not typed, or meet stated eligibility criteria and other requirements will not be considered.

Eligibility Criteria:

The Applicant must be a high school student who graduated as an RGV LEAD Scholar after the Fall 2023 semester or will graduate at the end of the Spring 2024 semester.

The Applicant must have graduated from, or be preparing to graduate from, the high school portion of a college-and-career-preparatory program of study that includes one or more career and technical education courses for college credit (articulated credit or dual credit).

The Applicant must have participated in a work-based learning experience, for example:

- an industry speaker's presentation to the student's class (as in a career day)
- a career fair (for example, the Education & Career EXPO)
- a field trip to an employer's place of business or an employer classroom presentation
- job-shadowing
- mentoring (e.g., RGV Mentors)
- an internship or apprenticeship
- a job, co-op class, etc.

Application Packet Requirements: Application packet must be complete, typed, and in order, as follows:

- Scholarship Application Cover Page (use the form enclosed in this packet).
- Two separate recommendations (see form attached--a letter of recommendation may also be attached.)
 - One recommendation from school personnel
 - One recommendation from a personal reference (church leader, employer, family friend, Scout leader, etc.—**may not be either a family member or a school employee**)
- College and Career Essay (Attach the essay cover page enclosed in this packet to the essay)
- Copy of High School Transcript reflecting a college-and-career-preparatory program of study

that includes one or more career and technical education courses completed for college credit (articulated credit or dual credit)

Submission Instructions:

Our RGV LEAD office is only staffed Monday through Friday. If you choose to hand-deliver your scholarship application, please do so no later than March 29, 2024, by 4:00 pm. Mailed applications must be postmarked by Friday, March 29, 2024. Applications must be delivered or mailed to the following address. **NO EXCEPTIONS**

RGV LEAD

Attention:

RGV LEAD, Inc.

Marketing and Awards Committee

322 South Missouri

Weslaco, Texas 78596

Essay Instructions:

The Applicant's essay must be typed, well-written, and organized and must address the following questions. Essays may be a maximum of at least two double-spaced typed pages in length, using 12-point font. The Applicant must complete the attached essay cover page and attach it to the essay. **RGV LEAD recommends that the Applicant have a counselor or teacher review the application prior to submittal.**

1. What was your career goal when you entered high school? Do you have the same career goal today? Where do you see yourself in the workforce ten years from now?
2. Are you planning to enroll in a college or university program related to the Foundation High School Program Endorsement you had at the time you graduated from high school? Why or why not?
3. Have you earned any industry certifications? If "yes," what certifications did you earn?
4. Describe one work-related experience (see application cover page) you had in high school. Explain how this experience helped you become the person you are today.
5. Name the college or university you have chosen and explain why you want to go to school there.

**RGV LEAD SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION FOR
2023-2024 SENIORS**

RGV LEAD STAFF'S NOTES ONLY:
Date Received: _____
Time Received: _____

RGV LEAD SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION COVER SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1. Must type all information.**
- 2. Completed applications must be received or postmarked by Friday, March 29, 2023 at 4 pm.**

Name of Applicant: _____
 First Middle Last

Mailing Address: _____
 Street City State Zip

Home Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Name of School District and High School: _____

High School "Major"/Field of Study: _____

Applicant's Employment History. Please include company name, position held, and employment dates. If no employment history, Applicant may include Internships; Certifications; job shadowing; or other employment related experience(s).

Agreement: I understand that (1) this application and all attachments will be reviewed by RGV LEAD staff and committee members; (2) I may be asked to participate in an awards ceremony honoring scholarship recipients; (3) my application will be kept confidential; and (4) any and all records of the RGV LEAD scholarship program, which includes my application and all attachments, could be made available to the Internal Revenue Service.

Signatures: _____
Student Applicant / Date

School Personnel: _____
High School Principal or Counselor or / Date
Career and Technical Education Director

_____ /Date
Parent or Legal Guardian
(Required if student is under age 18)



TO BE COMPLETED BY INDIVIDUAL GIVING RECOMMENDATION: Please do these things:

1. Fill in the information about yourself.
2. Place a checkmark in one box for the level of each quality you believe best represents the Applicant.
3. Answer the question below the table.
4. Verify your answers by signing at the bottom of the form.

Name of Recommender (please print): _____

Title (If Applicable): _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail (If Applicable): _____

How You Know the Applicant: _____

	Exceptional	Above Average	Average	Below Average	No Information
Intellectual Ability					
Leadership Ability					
Academic Preparation					
Interpersonal Skills					
Willingness to Learn					
Maturity					
Initiative					
Responsibility					
Dependability					
Attention to Detail					
Honesty and Integrity					
Motivation					

Why do you believe this student is a good candidate for a RGV LEAD Scholarship? (Attach additional page if necessary) _____



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Academic Preparation					
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Maturity					
Initiative					
Responsibility					
Dependability					
Attention to Detail					
Honesty and Integrity					
Motivation					

Why do you believe this student is a good candidate for a RGV LEAD Scholarship? (Attach additional page if necessary) _____



RGV LEAD SCHOLARSHIP: COLLEGE AND CAREER ESSAY

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTENT OF ESSAYS

The Applicant’s essay should answer these questions:

- A. What was your career goal when you entered high school? Do you have the same career goal today? Where do you see yourself in the workforce ten years from now?
- B. Are you planning to enroll in a college or university program related to the Foundation High School Program Endorsement in which you were enrolled at the time you graduated from high school? Why or why not?
- C. Have you earned any industry certifications? If “yes,” what certifications did you earn?
- D. Describe one work-related experience (see instructions) you had in high school. Explain how this experience helped you become the person you are today.
- E. Name the college or university you have chosen and explain why you want to go to school there.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORMAT OF ESSAYS

- 1. The essay MUST be typed.
- 2. Essays may be a maximum of two double-spaced pages in length, using 12-point font.
- 3. The Applicant should complete this form and use it as a cover page for the essay.

Name of Applicant: _____
 First Middle Last

Mailing Address: _____
 Street City State ZIP

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Name and Phone Number of Another Individual Who Knows How to Contact the Applicant:

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail _____

Name of School District and High School: _____

ATTACH ESSAY TO THIS PAGE.