

MCPHEARSON FOUNDATION, INC.

3310 Harbor Ridge Way
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35406
Email: vmcphearson@gmail.com

Virginia L. McPhearson, President
3310 Harbor Ridge Way
Tuscaloosa, Alabama 35406
Phone: (706) 221-2696
Email: vmcphearson@gmail.com

Grace M.O'Grady, Vice-President
607 S. Saint Asaph St.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: (703) 534-6024
Email: gmoigrady@verizon.net

J. Lee McPhearson, Secretary/Treasurer
124 S. Mulberry Avenue
Butler, Alabama 36904
Phone: (205)459-2618
Email: jleemc@tds.net

March 28, 2022

RE: 2022 McPhearson Foundation Scholarship

Dear Director of Gifts or Student Services,

The McPhearson Foundation was formed in 1994 by the family of the late Richard E. "Dickie" McPhearson, Jr. to provide financial assistance to spinal cord injured people to improve their quality of life. Pursuant to this goal, the McPhearson Foundation plans to award a yearly academic scholarship to an eligible spinal cord injured person to assist him or her in pursuing their educational goals. In 2021, a scholarship was given out in the amount of \$1,400.00.

Please find enclosed an informational package that gives you more information about this scholarship. Please inform all eligible students at your school of this scholarship and encourage them to apply. We anticipate the scholarships to be awarded for the 2022 fall semester to be in the excess of \$1,000.00.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

Sincerely yours,


Virginia L. McPhearson

VLM/t
Enclosures

MCPHEARSON FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

The McPhearson Foundation was formed in 1994, under the Alabama Non-Profit Corporation Act and was subsequently granted Section 501 (c) (3) status from the Internal Revenue Service. Among other things, The McPhearson Foundation was organized to provide funds for research, development cure and treatment of spinal cord injuries. It was also organized to provide assistance to handicapped and/or disabled people in locating, purchasing, renting, leasing and acquiring transportation, automobiles, wheelchairs, ramps, lifts and any other equipment used to assist in the transportation of spinal cord injured people. It is also allowed to do all things necessary and incident to promote the general social, benevolent and charitable works of the corporation.

Pursuant to the purpose of the McPhearson Foundation, the Board of Directors have elected to provide an annual scholarship to assist spinal cord injured people in continuing their education whether it be at a university, four (4) year college, Jr. College, or vocational school. The scholarship may be awarded to a graduating senior or a deserving student already enrolled in a post-secondary school. More specific information concerning eligibility and criteria for this scholarship are attached in the document entitled "Criteria for Receiving The McPhearson Foundation, Inc.'s Annual Scholarship."

Any interested student seeking this scholarship shall complete and return to The McPhearson Foundation, Inc. the application that is attached, hereto. The student will be required to submit two (2) individual scholarship recommendations that are also attached to this letter. The application requires you to develop a personal essay. It will help the scholarship committee gain a complete picture of the candidate. It will also be necessary for a spinal cord injured student to submit a brief letter from their primary treating physician providing a diagnosis of the student that sets out and describes the extent of the spinal cord injury of the applicant.

The application, along with supporting letters of recommendation, personal essay and the treating physician's diagnosis must be returned no later than June 1, 2022, to the address listed below. The scholarship to be awarded will pay to the student's educational institution by crediting the institutions student account to offset expenses reflected on the recipient's university billing statement. The scholarship is for one (1) academic year and may be applied to tuition, books, fees, and room and board, if any. If you have questions concerning The McPhearson Foundation, Inc. Scholarship, feel free to contact me at my address or phone number listed below.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Virginia L. McPhearson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Virginia L. McPhearson, President
McPhearson Foundation, Inc.
3310 Harbor Ridge Way
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

MCPHEARSON FOUNDATION, INC.

Scholarship Criteria

The McPhearson Foundation, Inc. accepts complete scholarship packets up to the scheduled deadline of **June 1st 2022**. This application is for the combined fall and spring semesters that follow the **June 1st** deadline. The scholarship shall be awarded under the policies and procedures of the McPhearson Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors. The following guidelines and conditions apply.

1. The applicant must be a Spinal Cord injured person pursuing their education, whether it be a four-year college/university, junior college, or vocational school.
2. If the applicant plans to attend a university or four-year college, and the applicant is a graduating senior from a high school, the applicant must have a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.75 or higher.
3. If the applicant is a graduating senior from a high school, the applicant must have a composite ACT Score of 19 or a SAT Score of 900-940 (w/ a writing score of 1350).
4. All Scholarships are awarded for the academic year, consisting of the fall and spring semesters.
5. Payments shall be made to the recipient(s) university/college by crediting the school's student account to offset expenses reflected on the recipient's school billing statement.
6. The scholarship is for one academic year only.
7. All applicants must meet the general requirements to be considered a student in good standing at their college and/or university, junior college, or vocational school.
8. The number of scholarships awarded and the amount of each scholarship are at the discretion of the McPhearson Foundation, Inc. Board of Directors on a year-to-year basis and dependent upon the amount of earnings available to the Foundation.
9. Priority of consideration shall be given to entering freshman who will graduate from a high school located in Choctaw County, Alabama; Lamar Academy in Meridian, Mississippi; and Tuscaloosa Academy in Tuscaloosa, Alabama or, if the applicant is currently enrolled in a post-secondary school, graduated from these same schools. Any spinal cord injured person, regardless of the location of their high school, are nevertheless eligible.
10. The applicant must complete and return the Application Form.
11. The applicant must complete and return a Personal Essay.
12. The applicant must have two (2) Individual Scholarship Recommendations completed, signed, and returned.
13. The applicant's Primary Physician must provide a diagnosis describing the extent of the applicant's spinal cord injury.

Mail completed application packet to:

Virginia L. McPhearson
3310 Harbor Ridge Way
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

MCPHEARSON FOUNDATION INC. SCHOLARSHIP

Personal Essay:

The application requires you to develop a personal essay. The personal essay is one of the most important parts of your application. It will help the Foundation's Board of Directors gain a complete picture of you. This is your chance to let the Scholarship committee know why you feel you should receive the McPhearson Foundation Inc., Scholarship.

Be sure to include your name and student ID Number(if enrolled in a post-secondary school) and/or Social Security Number in the heading. **Your essay should be 1 page, 12 point Times New Roman font, one inch margins, and double -spaced.** Some items you may want to include in your essay are as follows:

- * Your educational and career goals
- * Why you have selected your stated major and career goal
- * Any life experiences which have influenced this decision
- * How the scholarship will help you or any unusual circumstances which may affect your current financial situation
- * Any extra-curricular activities and accomplishments (e.g. honors, accolades, awards, community involvement, services and volunteer actions, student activities, school and club involvement, sports participation, hobbies, etc.)
- * Anything else you feel the Scholarship Committee needs to know about you in order To present yourself as the best candidate for the scholarship

Recommendation letters:

You are required to ask two individuals to complete the attached Scholarship Recommendation Letter Form. These letters need to be completed by individuals who can attest to your current academic strengths and potential for success.

Recommended sources include: Teachers, academic advisors, counselors, employers, clergy, or other known members of your community. A parent, relative, or other students are poor sources for scholarship recommendation letters and will not be considered as valid references.

The individual you ask to complete recommendation letters **should use the attached** Recommendation Letter Form. Your Recommendation letters are to be submitted at the same times as you submit your scholarship application packet. **Failure to comply will result in a rejected application.** Please allow your references plenty of time for the letters to be completed and returned to you in time to submit with your scholarship application.

MCPHEARSON FOUNDATION, INC.

SCHOLARSHIP RECOMMENDATION LETTER FORM

The McPhearson Foundation appreciates your evaluation of this scholarship applicant's strengths and potential for future success. Please complete this form and return the completed letter to the applicant for submission with the scholarship application packet. Your letter is confidential. Your comments are critical to the McPhearson Foundation Inc., committee's decision. Feel free to attach any additional comments if necessary.

Applicant's Name: _____
Last First

How long have you know the applicant and under what circumstances have you become familiar with the applicant's capabilities?

Describe any impediments or hardships of which you are aware that the applicant has had to overcome in order to attain academic success.

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