

Minnesota  
*Family Involvement Council*

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**2010 Scholarship  
Application Packet**

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Applications may also be completed online  
at [www.mnfic.org/scholarships.html](http://www.mnfic.org/scholarships.html)



# Minnesota Family Involvement Council Scholarship Program

## **Application Packet**

Thank you for your interest in the Minnesota Family Involvement Council (FIC) Scholarship Program. The Minnesota Family Involvement Council is a volunteer group made up of staff and volunteers from credit unions around the state. This year we are offering \$11,000 in scholarships. The amount will be awarded in the form of two **“Harvey Bakke” \$1,000 scholarships** and eighteen **\$500 scholarships** to 20 Minnesota credit union members.

Please read the following guidelines carefully before starting the application form and essay. **Applications not following the guidelines will not be considered.**

## **Application Checklist**

Applications must be completed and postmarked by Monday, February 1, 2010 (or submitted electronically by 11:59 Central Standard Time on the due date). Applications postmarked after Monday, February 1, 2010, will not be considered.

1. **Application**: Complete the application form. You can reproduce this form by computer if you wish. Complete all areas of the form and return it along with your essay. The application form will count for 25 percent of the evaluation.
2. **Essay Guidelines**: Submit a 500-word typed essay that answers the question:

**“Credit unions were established in the U.S. 100 years ago, yet many Americans know nothing about them. As the manager of a credit union, what strategies would you employ to give credit unions a higher profile and help them grow?”**

The essay should not exceed 500 words or one side of an 8 ½” x 11” sheet of paper. Essays should be typed or produced on a computer to allow for clarity and readability. Handwritten essays will not be considered. Transcripts and letters of recommendation sent along with the application will not be considered.

**\*\* For judging purposes, please DO NOT use your name or the name of your credit union in your essay or on the essay page.** Essays that include your name or the name of your credit union will be automatically disqualified.

You are encouraged to interview staff members and volunteers at your credit union to gather whatever information you feel is necessary to include in your essay, however this is not required. You are also allowed to use any other research materials. Using this as a guideline, feel free to write your essay in whatever form you see fit. Spelling and grammar will be considered, and creativity is encouraged. Essays will count for 75 percent of evaluation.

## **Eligibility**

To be eligible, you must be a student pursuing post-high school education in the 2010/2011 school year (fall and spring semester) and be a member of a credit union headquartered in Minnesota that is affiliated with the Minnesota Credit Union Network (Ask your credit union if you are unsure whether or not it meets these requirements). You must be a credit union member in good standing (as determined by your credit union). The school you are planning to

attend can be a public or private university, college, graduate or law school, or 2- or 4-year community or technical college. All schools must be accredited by the U.S. Department of Education.

Applications will be judged in March of 2010, and award winners will receive their scholarship money after completing the first semester of the 2010/2011 school year. Recipients must submit to the FIC a transcript from the fall of 2010 and proof of registration for spring of 2011. Upon receiving this information, scholarship money will then be provided directly to the recipient in the form of a check payable to both the student and the school. **Scholarship recipients who attend school for only the fall semester will not receive scholarship money.**

Financial need is not considered in the selection of the scholarship recipients. Immediate family and household members of the Minnesota Family Involvement Council are not eligible to enter.

### **Selection**

A selection committee made up of the FIC board members (credit union staff and volunteers from around the state) will select the scholarship recipients. The decision of the selection committee is final and not subject to review.

One "Harvey Bakke" \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded in each applicant category:

- **Traditional students** – High school students about to begin college or those taking advantage of the post-secondary education option (PSEO); and
- **Non-traditional students** – Anyone NOT coming directly out of high school, such as those currently attending college, adults returning to school, or those in graduate or law school.

The remaining eighteen \$500 awards will be divided proportionally among the number of applicants in each category. Applications in the traditional student and in the non-traditional student categories will be judged separately.

**The Minnesota Family Involvement Council will personally notify credit unions with scholarship winners, and the FIC will notify individual scholarship recipients by mail.** All scholarships must be claimed by May 31, 2011. The list of scholarship recipients will be posted online at [www.mnfic.org](http://www.mnfic.org) in the spring of 2010 following the March judging meeting. Non-winners will not be notified.

### **Application Forms**

Application forms may be handwritten or typed, but essays must be typed or produced on a computer. Please use the FIC's online application to submit via the web, or print and mail the completed application form to the address below. The application can be found online at [www.mnfic.org/scholarships.html](http://www.mnfic.org/scholarships.html). Those who submit applications electronically will receive e-confirmation. Applicants who submit more than one application packet (in electronic and/or paper format) will be disqualified. Handwritten essays will not be considered. Application materials will not be returned and become the property of the Minnesota Family Involvement Council.

### **Deadline**

Applications must be completed and postmarked by Monday, February 1, 2010 (or submitted electronically by 11:59 p.m. Central Standard Time on this due date). Mail applications to:

***Scholarship Program, Minnesota Credit Union Network,  
555 Wabasha Street North, Suite #200, St. Paul, MN 55102***

Please do not send applications to your credit union. Applications received or postmarked after Monday, February 1, 2010, will not be considered.



# Questions:

(You may recreate this form or use another sheet of paper if you wish.)

- Briefly list noteworthy activities, achievements and honors.
  
- List school or community memberships. Include names of organizations and their activities. (Please be brief.)
  
- List volunteer and/or community work. (Please be brief.)
  
- What school will you be attending next fall? (If you are undecided, list schools you are considering.)
  
- What is or will be your major course of study? (If you are undecided, list majors you are considering.)
  
- Essay Question: “Credit unions were established in the U.S. 100 years ago, yet many Americans know nothing about them. As the manager of a credit union, what strategies would you employ to give credit unions a higher profile and help them grow?” (Limit 500 words) **For judging purposes, please DO NOT use your name or the name of your credit union in your essay or on the essay page.** Essays that include your name or the name of your credit union will be automatically disqualified.

*The attached essay and application form are my original work, and all other personal information is true. I understand that the essay and form become the property of the Minnesota Family Involvement Council. If selected, I agree to allow my name, photo and essay to be used in promotional materials by members of the Minnesota Family Involvement Council and the Minnesota Credit Union Network.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_