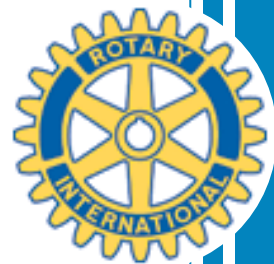


**Rotary Club of Jackson**

**2024 Mentor  
Scholarship  
Program**



**Deadline: March 31, 2024**



## INTRODUCTION

Since its formation in 1914, the Rotary Club of Jackson has reached out to the community with special projects to fulfill its motto: "Service Above Self; He Profits Most Who Serves Best."

In 1990, the Club's Youth Charities Committee recommended a college scholarship program for deserving youth who had potential as future leaders of Mississippi but lacked sufficient financial means to reach their goals. Instead of providing loans that had to be repaid, the committee wanted the scholarship recipients to give time back to the community in service, tutoring younger students and providing leadership by helping others.

The club established the Jackson Rotary Club's Mentor Scholarship Program to help fill this need by recognizing young men and women who exhibit potential as productive citizens of Mississippi. The scholarship is designed to help develop the knowledge and skills of future leaders of Mississippi.

Scholarship recipients will be selected by the club's Mentor Scholarship Committee. Their choices will be based on each student's potential, financial need, and high school performance. Information on test scores, grades, courses taken, quality of written expression, involvement in extracurricular activities, attendance, outside employment, and other responsibilities will be considered. Substantiated statements regarding potential will be given prime consideration by references.

This college scholarship program is a **maximum** \$16,000 total grant, payable at **up to** \$4,000 per year for four years. The scholarship awards will be sent directly to the college or university indicated by the recipient and applied to registration, tuition, and other on-campus costs. In no situation will the students receive the funds directly.

To assist the scholarship recipients, a member of the Rotary Club is assigned as a mentor to guide and advise each student.

The Rotary Club of Jackson is proud to offer this opportunity for outstanding seniors who graduate in 2024.

More information about our Rotary Club can be found on the Web at:

[www.rotaryclubofjackson.org](http://www.rotaryclubofjackson.org)

## APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicant must be a graduating senior who desires to continue his/her education at a college, university, junior college, or community college in Mississippi.
2. Applicants must have an ACT score of 18 or higher (or equivalent SAT score).
3. Applicants must have a high school average of B or higher or 3.0 or higher.
4. Applicants must be in a household where the combined family income does not exceed \$75,000 per year, as determined by the FAFSA.
5. Applicants must reside in Hinds, Madison, or Rankin County.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

To be considered for selection, you must complete:

1. The Mentor Scholarship Program Application (page 4)
2. A one-page essay of approximately 350 words, double-spaced, answering the following: "Define what gives you character and how you will change the world with it."
3. Official high school transcript with ACT or SAT scores
4. Three letters of recommendation. Letters must be from a teacher or a counselor and two other adults unrelated to the student. The letters should describe the student's potential, character, personality, initiative, drive, home activities, home background, and/or other factors supporting the applicant's candidacy.
5. School Certification Form (page 5)
6. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) - include the Student Aid Report in the application packet. If you need help with the FAFSA, call the Jackson Get2College Center at 601.321.5533 for an appointment to assist in completing the FAFSA.
7. Wallet-sized photograph

## SELECTION PROCESS

1. Applicants must file a scholarship application by **Friday, March 31, 2024**.
2. The top candidates will be selected by early April by a panel composed of the Rotary Mentor Scholarship Program Committee members.
3. Top candidates *must*:
  - a. Call the Jackson Get2College Center at 601.321.5533 to make an appointment for review of the cost of college and how to pay for college. **Appointment must occur before Friday, May 3, 2024.**
  - b. Be interviewed by the Rotary Mentor Scholarship Program Committee (finalists will be contacted by the Rotary Club office to set up this interview).
4. Recipients will be notified by **May 6, 2024**, by the Rotary Club of Jackson.
5. New scholarship recipients will be honored at the Rotary Club luncheon meeting on **Monday, June 3, 2024**. ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR MAINTAINING/RENEWING COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

1. Recipients must maintain an overall 2.5 grade point average.
2. Recipients must provide some type of supervised community service, such as volunteering as a tutor in an elementary or secondary school, for a minimum of four hours weekly, beginning with the second semester of the freshmen year.
3. Recipients must communicate with their assigned Rotary Club Mentor monthly regarding academic progress and mentoring participation.
4. Recipients are obligated, if requested, to attend at least one meeting of the Rotary Club of Jackson to report on his/her activities for the year.
5. Recipients must remain a full-time student as defined and verified by the college.
6. Relatives of current Rotary Club members are not eligible to apply.

## 2024 MENTOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION

(Directions: Application must be typed or handwritten legibly in ink.) Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City State Zip*

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Gross Annual Salary \_\_\_\_\_  
*(if different from student)*

Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Gross Annual Salary \_\_\_\_\_  
*(if different from student)*

Number in Family Household \_\_\_\_\_ Ages of Household Members \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School \_\_\_\_\_ Rank in Class \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_ School Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Date \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Point Average \_\_\_\_\_ Test Scores: \_\_\_\_\_  
*ACT SAT*

Name of institution you plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_

Career Plans \_\_\_\_\_

Honors/Awards/ Distinctions Received \_\_\_\_\_

School/Community Activities \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the preceding information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the Rotary Mentor Scholarship Committee to receive and review my submitted school records and financial information.

Student's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Return the Complete Application Packet by March 31, 2024 to:**

**Rotary Club of Jackson  
Attention: Scholarship Committee  
P. O. Box 3807  
Jackson, MS 39207**

## SCHOOL CERTIFICATION FORM

*(This should be obtained through the Counseling or Principal's Office and signed by the Principal.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ (name of student), a graduating senior, is applying for a Rotary Club of Jackson Mentor Scholarship worth up to \$16,000. Please provide the information about this student that you feel should influence his or her eligibility, including the practice of good citizenship.

How long have you known this student, and in what context? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the first words that come to your mind to describe this student? \_\_\_\_\_

**Ratings** Compared to other students in his or her class year, how do you rate this student in terms of:

	No basis	Below average	Average	Good (above average)	Very good (well above average)	Excellent (top 10%)	Out-standing (top 5%)	One of top few I've
Personal qualities and character								
Academic achievement								
Extracurricular accomplishments								

Has the applicant ever been found responsible for a disciplinary violation at your school from 9<sup>th</sup> grade forward, whether related to academic misconduct or behavioral misconduct that resulted in the applicant's probation, suspension, removal, dismissal, or expulsion from your institution? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

To your knowledge, has the applicant ever been adjudicated guilty or convicted of a misdemeanor, felony, or other crime? \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

If you answered "yes" to either or both questions, please attach a separate sheet to give the approximate date of each incident and explain the circumstances.

I RECOMMEND THIS STUDENT: \_\_\_ with reservation \_\_\_ fairly strongly \_\_\_ strongly \_\_\_ enthusiastically

Official's Signature and Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

This form may be returned in a sealed and signed envelope to the student to submit with his/her Scholarship Application Packet or mailed directly to the address below by **March 31, 2024**.

**Rotary Club of Jackson**  
**Attention: Scholarship Committee**  
**P.O. Box 3807, Jackson, MS 39207**

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

**Your complete application packet should include the following:**

- Completed Application form (page 4)
- Essay (Approximately 350 words, double-spaced)
- High School transcript with ACT or SAT scores
- Three letters of recommendation (teacher or counselor and two others)
- School Certification form (page 5)
- Student Aid Report from the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)
- Photograph (wallet size)

The committee will not consider application packets that are incomplete. Remember, it is your responsibility to ensure all materials are included.

**Applications must be signed and mailed to the Rotary office at the following address and postmarked on or before the deadline of Friday, March 31, 2024.**

Send applications to:  
**Rotary Club of Jackson**  
**Scholarship Committee**  
**P.O. Box 3807**  
**Jackson, MS 39207**

**Please address questions to:**  
Sandra Shelson, Scholarship Chair,  
at 601.927.8545 or [sandra.shelson@healthy-miss.org](mailto:sandra.shelson@healthy-miss.org)