

Scott Menke Summit Scholarship Application Guidelines



Scott Menke Summit Scholarship Purpose Statement:

The Scott Menke Summit Scholarship program was created to honor the memory of a treasured Healy youth whose life was too brief. Scott was considerate of others, loved and respected his family, was an enthusiastic athlete, a natural peer leader and a vibrant young man with a robust love of life. Scott avidly participated in the Denali Education Center's Denali Discovery Camp and championed the creation of Denali Backcountry Adventures for high school aged students.

Denali Education Center and the Menke family created the Scott Menke Memorial Fund to honor his memory and benefit the students of Denali Borough School District. The funds raised support the youth programs of Denali Education Center. Working together, we inspire future generations to embody the incomparable spirit Scott shared with us.

The Scott Menke Summit Scholarship strives to encourage these qualities in the students of Denali Borough School District by awarding moneys in Scott's name to worthy students.

The Scott Menke Summit Scholarship is available to all graduating Denali Borough students pursuing a post-secondary education or trade school. Scholarships will be determined by an impartial advisory board of 5 to 7 members. This somewhat "unconventional" scholarship is not strictly based upon academic merit, but is weighted with emphasis on character as well. The strongest candidates will demonstrate traits similar to those possessed by Scott – a good friend and peer leader who has had a positive influence in the community and who is involved in extra curricular activities.

Applications should be mailed to the Denali Education Center, P.O. Box 212, Denali Park, AK 99755 and post marked no later than **Friday, April 10, 2020** or may be delivered to our administrative office behind the Charles Sheldon Center at Milepost 231 Parks Highway during business hours.

Please be sure to include:

1. The completed application form with all questions answered to the best of your abilities.
2. A brief (one page) essay that describes your personality, how you most enjoy spending your time and why.
3. A reference letter, **written by a peer** (not a teacher or other adult), which identifies the qualities they most admire about you. Include that person's name, address and telephone number.
4. A copy of your high school transcript of grades.

Scholarship amounts will be awarded as follows: the first place recipient will receive \$2,500; second place recipient will receive \$1,500; and the third place recipient will receive \$1,000. **All scholarship amounts will be awarded after the submission of transcripts showing completion of at least one semester of trade school, university/college, or post-secondary education; and within no more than 18 months after high school graduation.** Since scholarship award levels are based on a points system, any ties will be awarded evenly by pooling and splitting award by level. For example, a two-way tie for first place will result in both students pooling the \$2,500 and \$1,500 awards and each earning \$2,000.

Funds for the scholarship are primarily raised through the *Healy Tundra Challenge* golf tournament and other fundraising activities of the Denali Education Center including direct contributions from donors. Scholarship winners and their families will be encouraged to support these fundraising efforts to make this scholarship possible for future students.