

GLEN OAKS COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

Kenneth “Ken” R. Nelson Scholarship (Endowed)

Background:

Ken is creating this fund to assist qualified students who have the desire and motivation to pursue a degree in education (at any level). Ken’s relationship with Glen Oaks has been strong, starting back in 1995 when he joined the Fitness Center. He has participated in many ways throughout the campus, getting involved with student activities and various sport programs. He enjoys interacting with the students, and takes pleasure in seeing them motivated by their own individual accomplishments.

This has motivated Ken to set up this scholarship, to feel a part of the development and achievements of a struggling student working to reach their goal of earning a college degree. Ken feels strongly there are benefits to acquiring a post-secondary education and the struggles of individual students of this community deserve assistance reaching their highest potential. He believes strongly that Glen Oaks Community College provides a service to the St. Joseph County area that can be unmatched by other service organizations.

Ken has been a long time resident of St. Joseph County, worked 38 years in the County Court system as a court reporter. He is a member of the Michigan Court Reporters Association, a member of the Presbyterian Church of Sturgis; and a past member of the Southwest Michigan Officials Association, where he refereed Michigan High School and Junior College basketball for ten years. Ken believes strongly in community service and feels it is the foundation to an individual’s character development. He enjoys running and racing, reading, singing, acting, gardening and playing his guitar. His favorite quote, by Steve Prefontaine: “To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift”.

Eligibility:

- Students intending to pursue a major in education (any level i.e. elementary, secondary, etc.)
- Students must pursue an Associate of Arts, Science or General Studies Degree
- Students must have a minimum cumulative G.P.A. of 2.5
- Students completing high school must have a recommendation letter from their high school principal
- Students must be enrolled full-time in at least 12 college credit hours

Preference:

- Those with experience as classroom aid or tutor

Selection Criteria:

- Has been involved in community service activities
- Academic ability, and career goals will be a strong component when selecting the recipients
- Financial circumstances will be taken into consideration
- Strong consideration will be given to applicants with recommendations from faculty or high school staff

Maintenance Criteria:

- The recipients of the Kenneth “Ken” R. Nelson Scholarship will be expected to maintain a semester GPA of at least 2.5 while receiving the scholarship

Selection Process:

- Students will be selected by the scholarship committee, based upon the listed criteria above

Use:

- The scholarship must only be applied to tuition and fees

Amount and Number of Awards:

- There shall be no limit on the number or amount of said scholarships, provided the principal is not utilized.

Prior Recipients:

- Must reapply

Disbursements:

The Office of Financial Aid will disburse the scholarship according to the standard school policy.

If, at any time, the College Foundation policies and procedures in effect for the administration of award and scholarship funds are changed, these provisions are automatically modified to conform.

Whenever it appears that changing conditions make this plan no longer applicable, practical, or suited to the general purposes stated above, the College Foundation would confer with the donor or their representative to secure a modification of the plan. If the Foundation is unable to locate the donor or their representative after reasonable efforts, then the Foundation is authorized to utilize the fund for any other suitable educational purpose, so that the fund will provide the maximum service to the community through the advancement of higher education.

Date

Kenneth R. Nelson

Date

Janene L. Breneman, Executive Director
Glen Oaks Community College Foundation

C: Office of Financial Aid
March 24, 2009