



ELIZABETH CITY DOWNTOWN, INC.

The North Carolina Potato Festival
106 S. Water Street ♦ Elizabeth City, North Carolina 27909 ♦ 252-338-4104

North Carolina Potato Festival
2016 Scholarship Essay Contest

Scholarship Description

PURPOSE

The purpose of the North Carolina Potato Festival Scholarship Essay Contest is to provide post high school academic scholarship to North Carolina students. Award of scholarship will be based on the following criteria and requirements:

- Senior in secondary education.
- Reside or attend school in North Carolina.
- Write and submit an essay on the provided topic.
- Acceptance into an accredited two- or four-year college or university in North Carolina.
- Full-time student status (minimum of 12 credit hours/semester).
- Pursuit of a degree in an agricultural field of study is not required.

AWARD

The North Carolina Potato Festival will award a \$500.00 scholarship to a high school senior. The award may be used only for payment of tuition, fees and/ or books.

SELECTION PROCESS

Final selection of applicant to receive scholarship will be made by the North Carolina Potato Festival Scholarship Essay Selection Committee. The committee will give equal consideration to all applicants who fulfill the above requirements for the award. The award is designated for students residing or attending school in Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Pasquotank and Perquimans counties. Decisions of the committee are final. All essays become the property of the North Carolina Potato Festival.

All essay scholarship materials must be postmarked by **May 1, 2016** and mailed to the address listed below. Please include 2 paper copies of everything submitted. In addition, please submit an electronic copy of your information either by including it on a CD-ROM with your submission packet or by emailing your cover information sheet and your essay to elizabethcitydowntown@embarqmail.com.

Mail materials to:

NC Potato Festival
Attn: Scholarship Essay Selection Committee
106 S. Water Street
Elizabeth City, NC 27909

Please direct any questions regarding application for the NC Potato Festival Essay Scholarship Contest to Elizabeth City Downtown's office at 252-338-4104.

Instructions (2 copies of each are required):

1. **A cover document** with the following information must be included with your completed essay:

Your name, address, and phone number (s).

The name (s) of your parent (s) or guardian (s).

Your current status as a student and your expected graduation date.

Name, address, and phone number of your current school.

List of colleges that you have already or will submit an application to attend.

If you have already been accepted and have notified a college of your intent to attend, provide name and location (city, state) of this college and the department into which you will be conducting your field of study.

Biographical Information (info that we could submit to the local newspaper) This could include the name (s) of your parents or guardians, a photograph suitable for publication, and/or any other information you would like to submit. Publication is at the discretion of the newspaper editorial staff.

2. **Essay.** Your essay must be double-spaced with one inch margins in a readable 12 point font. Remember that this is an essay, not a research paper, so it should be interesting as well as informative. Your essay must be your original work. You may quote passages from other sources to support your thoughts; however, any information not your own MUST be properly quoted or cited. If not, your essay will be disqualified.

Your essay will be judged on: (1) Adherence to essay topic, (2) Support of thoughts and ideas, (3) Organization and format, and (4) Proper grammar and spelling.

Its length should be a minimum of one full page, but no more than 3 pages on the following topic:

Essay Topic:

Why Everyone Should Visit the North Carolina Potato Festival in downtown Elizabeth City.