NARRATIVE QUESTIONS & SCORING RUBRIC

The COCC Foundation awards scholarships based on financial need and the promise each student shows which is demonstrated by answers to three narrative questions. Financial need is defined as lacking sufficient funds to pay for education. The promise a student shows is defined as the circumstances a person has faced and/or accomplishments they have made, combined with their sense of direction.

The questions with scoring rubrics:

Q1 Financial and Life Circumstances: COCC Foundation scholarships are based on financial need. Please explain any circumstances or challenges you are facing that may make continuing your education difficult without additional financial assistance.

4 – Clearly articulates financial hardship as a barrier to continuing education. Clearly illustrates how a scholarship would help overcome these barriers.

3 – Articulates financial hardship as a barrier to continuing education. Offers some understanding on how a scholarship would overcome these barriers.

2 – Demonstrates some financial need; does not clearly identify how a scholarship will help address continuing their education.

1 – Does not demonstrates financial need.

Q2 Education and Career Goals: Describe education and career goals that you have established for yourself and your efforts to accomplish them. Give an example that would demonstrate your commitment to these goals.

4 – Clearly defines education and career goals; clear efforts toward goals and provides a relevant example demonstrating commitment to goals.

3 – Defines education and career goals; some efforts toward goals; unclear connection between example and goals.

2 – Defines education and career goals; no efforts toward goal

1 – Does not state or poorly defines education or career goals.

Q3 Personal Accomplishment: Describe a specific accomplishment of which you are most proud. This could be a leadership role, community/family involvement, or a professional/educational contribution. Describe how the experience has shaped you.

4 – Clearly describes an accomplishment and clearly articulates the personal impact.

3 – Describes an accomplishment; moderately connects personal impact to experience.

2 – Loosely describes an accomplishment; personal impact is unclear.

1 – Does not describe a relevant accomplishment.