

Ryan Hirn Memorial Scholarship

The Ryan Memorial Scholarship was established in 2017 in honor of Ryan who passed away in 2001. This scholarship serves as a living legacy to a special person who will be missed dearly but never forgotten.

"I know this sounds impossible but here was a seven-year-old who was born knowing what matters most in life. And, for him, it was "people"; especially people who were having a hard time. That was just Ryan's radar. That is just who Ryan is. I say "is" instead of "was" because he is obviously present and my partner in everything. In a way, he left his mark on Ryan Shines Burn Foundation. It is built on his life and his death. He left us sooner than we ever thought he would. In 2001, our family was involved in an automobile fire that took his life. Our 7-year-old, Ryan, was gone and the fire left my husband, our 2-year-old, Tyler, and me with burns over 25% of our bodies." Dawn Hirn, Mother of Ryan

This (up to) \$2,000.00 scholarship will reward deserving student(s) seeking higher education toward the costs of tuition and approved education materials. The scholarship(s) will be awarded in May, 2021.

Applicant Criteria

1. Must be currently enrolled in higher education classes or starting classes in a timely manner. (Higher education consists of, but is not limited to, college, university, trade school, apprenticeship, GED, certification, or license.)
2. Must be a burn survivor with at least 1 year of attendance of *Catching Courage Event* or another burn camp. Stronger consideration to applicants with longer tenure, especially those who have participated in a Counselor in Training Program at a burn camp.
3. Consideration will be given to applicants who have shown effort and success during their most recent education year.
4. Must attend one *Catching Courage* event during scholarship year.
5. Past scholarship recipients may submit an abbreviated Application Packet consisting of the following for subsequent scholarship consideration. However, a full Application Packet is required if the recipient is changing area of study or educational institution.
 - Sections I and III of the Application (Biographical and Higher Education Sections)
 - Most recent transcript at the institution at which the previous scholarship was applied

IMPORTANT- The six components of the Application Packet must be submitted simultaneously to be considered. DEADLINE: Scholarship Application Packet must be postmarked/email time stamped on or before April 20th.

Scholarship Application Packet components include:

1. Attached Application, all three sections must be completed unless otherwise noted
2. Most recent official high school, college or trade school transcript that includes credits and GPA, or official copy of GED
3. Acceptance letter or a copy of invoice from your college, university, or trade school
4. Educational reference: One letter of reference from school staff, counselor, administrator, or teacher/professor
5. Character reference: One letter of reference from non-education/non-family member
6. Three (3) mini essays addressing the questions below. Provide your response to the following questions on a separate sheet. Write the number of the question and the full question above your response.
 1. On what basis do you think you are a deserving scholarship recipient? (Include life experience, community service) (limit 100 words)
 2. How will college/university degree or trade school certificate contribute to your life after you graduate? (limit 100 words)
 3. How has your burn injury influenced and impacted your life and the person that you are today? (limit 100 words)

Ryan Hirn Memorial Scholarship recipients:

- Will be notified by May 31st and publicly announced by June 15th of each year
- Must supply copy of school invoice since scholarship funds will be released directly to an educational institution
- Are encouraged to write a timely letter to the Ryan Hirn Memorial Board on how this scholarship assisted in their educational development
- May re-apply each year after having achieved a B average during the year the scholarship was received

Ryan Hirn Memorial Scholarship Application

Section I – Biographical Information

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

Facebook _____ Twitter _____

Instagram _____ Any others _____

Phone: Home (area code) _____ Cell (area code) _____

Parent/Guardian’s Name _____

Phone: Home (area code) _____ Work (area code) _____

Were you treated at a burn center facility?

Please list the name, city, and state of the original center where you were treated:

What school do you currently attend? (Give full name, address and phone number)

Section II – Financial Overview and Educational Funding

Please provide an itemized statement of anticipated educational expenses for the requested academic year and any sources of financial assistance you currently have or anticipate receiving:

Educational Expenses for upcoming academic year:

Tuition and Fees: _____ Room and Board: _____

Books and Lab Fees: _____ Total Anticipated Costs: _____

Amount requested**(up to \$2,000.00) _____

Scholarship to be used toward: _____

Are you receiving or have you received any other scholarships for the upcoming academic year?

How do you plan to pay for additional educational expenses for the upcoming academic year?

Section III – Higher Education Institution

Higher Education Institution: _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Name of Academic Advisor _____ Phone Number _____

Advisor's Email Address _____ Area of Study _____

Have you already been accepted? _____ Date Attending: _____

Provide Information on where to send funds should you receive a scholarship (details can be provided at a later date if unknown at this time)

Address: _____

Student ID: _____ Contact Person: _____

Additional Information: _____

Scholarship Application Packet Checklist (see previous pages for details)

- Completed Application
- Transcript or GED
- Acceptance letter/copy of invoice from your higher education institution
- Educational reference
- Character reference
- Three (3) mini essays

Submit Application Packet via US Mail or email to one of the addresses below:

Mail Application Packet to:

Ryan Hirn Memorial Scholarship

P.O. Box 531414

Mountain Brook, AL 35253

Email Application Packet to: scholarships.ryanshines@gmail.com For email, please attach one complete, multi-page document containing all components of the Application Packet – Application Packet components sent as individual attachments are too difficult to track and will not be accepted.

Address Questions to: scholarships.ryanshines@gmail.com