

Derrick Thomas Scholarship

“The ability to read is one of the greatest victories life has to offer. Books help kids make positive life decisions. I want to help get books in the hands of all kids”.

-Derrick Thomas

Dear Counselor/Applicant,

The Derrick Thomas/Neil Smith Third and Long Foundation would like to announce the:

Derrick Thomas Scholarship for the academic year of 2023-2024.

Derrick Thomas’ dream was to sack illiteracy among our youth. He knew that teaching children to read would help them avoid the societal issues of poverty, unemployment and poor health that develops out of being an illiterate adult. The Third and Long Foundation strives to keep his dream alive by changing the lives of children facing challenges and even life threatening situations. Through social, cultural and educational activities and programs, The Third and Long Foundation helps participating children succeed in school and in an outside world possessing seemingly insurmountable obstacles.

The goal of our scholarship is to encourage and assist youth to acquire the skills needed to compete in the 21st century through higher education. Students who are pursuing post-secondary education on a full-time basis from an accredited institution are invited to apply.

Included with this letter are the guidelines for the scholarship, the application and key dates. The scholarship and application must be submitted/postmarked to the Derrick Thomas/Neil Smith Third and Long Foundation no later than **May 26, 2023**.

We appreciate your participation and assistance.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Eligibility	High school senior graduates with a minimum 2.5 grade point average. First time college applicants or post-secondary training entrants.
How to Apply	Self-nominations will be accepted from any public high school throughout the Greater Kansas City, Missouri metropolitan area. It is available to high school seniors and recent graduates. A school official, teacher or counselor must endorse self-nominations via providing 2 letters of recommendation/reference. Candidates must complete an application, provide an official school transcript of the most current completed semester, secure letters of recommendation from three individuals and submit a 1-page type-written essay on "How I Plan to Use My Education to Better My Community".
Length of Scholarship	Initial scholarship is a one-time award. Previous scholarship winners may be considered for a re-award annually for a maximum of two years of full-time undergraduate work for an associate's degree and four years of full-time undergraduate work for a bachelor's degree contingent upon written application and the successful completion of the prior work.
Scholarship	Proof of enrollment, full-time status, grades, and financial status is required prior to award disbursement.
Selection of Winners	Scholarship winners will be selected by the scholarship committee. The Scholarship committee will evaluate students according to their assessment of the candidate's academic achievement, extracurricular activities, essay and personal interview. Finalist will be present for ratification by the Derrick Thomas/Neil Smith Third and Long Foundation Board of Directors.

Application

Name: _____ Social Security No: _____

Address: _____

Street City State Zip Code

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Current High School: _____ Date of Graduation: _____

Current GPA: _____ Cumulative GPA: _____

Name of Institution You Plan to Attend: _____

(Letter of Acceptance must accompany this application)

Major Course of Study: _____

Your Current Employment: _____

Job Title: _____

Number of Hours per Week: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Occupation: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Position: _____

Father's Name: _____

Occupation: _____

Place of Employment: _____

Position: _____

Number of Children in College _____ Name of College(s) _____

(including self) Number of Children in Family _____ Ages of Children: _____

(including self) Combined Family Income _____

Application

Itemize your anticipated needs for the coming academic year:

Tuition: \$ _____

Books : \$ _____

Room & Board: \$ _____

Fees : \$ _____

Transportation: \$ _____

Personal: \$ _____

Other (itemize): \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

How much financial assistance can the family contribute to your college education in the following areas?

Room & Board: _____

Books, Fees, and Incidental Expenses: _____

Have you received or applied for financial assistance from any other source(s)? YES _____ NO _____

Name of Source: _____

Amt. Requested: _____ Amt. Confirmed: _____ Renewable: YES _____ NO _____

Name of Source: _____

Amt. Requested: _____ Amt. Confirmed: _____ Renewable: YES _____ NO _____

Name of Source: _____

Amt. Requested: _____ Amt. Confirmed: _____ Renewable: YES _____ NO _____

Extra Curricular Activities

Application

Briefly describe your extra-curricular activities/interests, memberships or offices held in an organization, and any honors you have received:

Describe any special talents, skills or abilities:

Describe any civic/community activities in which you have been involved:

Personal Achievements
