

# SCRIPT FOR PASTORS AND CHURCHES

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## **Southeast Regional Fellowship (SERF) Scholarship**

In an effort to support our youth and young adults, each year **up to** three worthy students (high school seniors or currently enrolled college students) from the SERF corridor area may be awarded a **scholarship up to** \$500 (five hundred dollars) to an accredited college/university approved by the scholarship committee. **This scholarship opportunity could possibly pay for books for an entire school year!** The 2020 Kenneth L. Hill scholarship requires applicants to submit a six (6) page essay. With research revealing that a large percentage of students, start college but do not finish, the essay must address the following:

***“Embarking on this new educational journey; beginning college or continuing on, what does your commitment to finish this race look like? What will you do to spiritually stay committed to (1) your life in Christ and (2) your journey to completion – not just starting college but finishing?”***

***Explain, using Biblical examples, life experiences and the Word, ways you will stay committed to Christ. In addition, what is your plan to not only start this college journey but to finish it.***

I encourage your youth to participate and your youth leaders to get connected by working with or recommending students to apply. Please check the SERF website [www.cogserf.org](http://www.cogserf.org) for additional information addressing eligibility rules, submissions and deadlines. For questions or additional information on requirements, you can contact one of the committee members listed on the website.

Contest opens January 1<sup>st</sup> and closes March 31<sup>st</sup>.

## Southeast Regional Fellowship (SERF) Scholarship 2020

Each year worthy *graduating* high school seniors or currently enrolled college students within the SERF corridor area can be awarded a **scholarship up to \$500** (five hundred dollars) to an accredited school approved by the committee. The following requirements will serve as guidelines for the disbursing of these scholarships.

- Applicant must complete the application packet. (All information submitted to the Scholarship Committee will be kept confidential.)
- **Applicant must submit a transcript of his/her academic records from high school (seniors) or college. A copy must be included in the submission packet.**
- **Applicant must have an acceptance letter from or be enrolled in an accredited college or vocational school in the fall. A copy must be included in the submission packet.**
- Applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student (12 hours minimum).
- Applicant must regularly attend the Church of God and *actively* serving in ministry.
- Applicant's pastor must submit a personal Letter of Recommendation to be mailed directly to the scholarship committee.
- The applicant must submit one of the following:

### AN ESSAY

Six (6) pages, double-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman or Arial font, single-sided, numbered pages with one-inch margins. You must cite any/all research/resources to support your submission. **Total pages should not include the cover page with your name, essay title or the bibliography.**

With research revealing that a large percentage of students, start college but do not finish, the essay must address the following:

***TOPIC – Embarking on this new educational journey; beginning college or continuing on, what does your commitment to finish this race look like? What will you do to spiritually stay committed to (1) your life in Christ and (2) your journey to completion – not just starting college but finishing?***

Explain, using Biblical examples, life experiences and the Word, ways you will stay committed to Christ. In addition, what is your plan to not only start this college journey but to finish it.

- i. – Write an essay telling the reader about your story. You must convey lessons learned, supporting scriptures, quotes, etc. that will speak of your life story. The Scholarship committee will judge essays based on a rubric addressing applicant’s written credibility, persuasiveness, reasoning and emotional appeal.
  - ii. ***Creativity is welcomed.*** *When students apply for college scholarships, they must convince the reader of their qualifications. This is an opportunity for students to tell their story.*
- Applicant must submit application packet to the Scholarship Committee by March 31<sup>st</sup>. **If a package is incomplete it will be disqualified.**
  - Winners will be notified by the end of that week.
  - The recipients of the scholarship will be announced during the **Saturday** service.
  - The scholarships will be awarded based on:
    - b. Applicant’s essay and the **scholarship committee’s grading rubric.**
    - c. Applicant’s financial need.
    - d. Applicant’s current academic performance.
    - e. Applicant’s awareness of his/her future goals, objectives, and ambitions.
    - f. Content of applicant’s essay (format, organization, grammar and emotional appeal).

# OFFICIAL RULES

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## Contestant Eligibility

The Southeast Regional Fellowship (SERF) Kenneth L. Hill Scholarship may award **up to** three scholarships **up to** five hundred dollars (\$500) to high school seniors and/or college students who are currently enrolled (or will be enrolled) full time at a college or vocational school within the Southeast Regional Fellowship corridor. Each year worthy students from the SERF corridor area will be awarded based on their essay submissions that will be judged by the scholarship committee.

If there is a change in the contestant’s eligibility status during the Contest you must notify the SERF scholarship committee immediately. Any failure to notify SERF of any change in eligibility status will disqualify the student from participation in the contest. SERF expressly reserves the right to disqualify any students for any change in the eligibility status. Disqualified students will not be eligible to win a scholarship.

The sponsor reserves the right to, in its sole and entire discretion, declare the Contest over without choosing a winner, or to disqualify any contestant that it believes: (i) does not comply with these Official Rules; (ii) provides any false information (including, but not limited to,

information related to a contestant's identity, mailing address, telephone number, e-mail address, or eligibility status); or (iii) plagiarize essay or submits work that is not his/her own work.

### **Contest Sponsor**

The Contest Sponsor is Dr. Kenneth Hill a former president of SERF. Please direct all contest questions and submissions about the **essay** to Yolanda Ferguson, 13315 Hyperion Hills Lane, Charlotte, NC 28278 or call 704-651-4084 or [fergie620@hotmail.com](mailto:fergie620@hotmail.com).

### **Contest Submission Period**

In order to enter the Contest, all Contest entrants must register via the web at [www.cogserf.org](http://www.cogserf.org). The Contest submission period ("Submission Period") begins on January 1, 2020, at 12:01 AM Eastern Time ("ET"), and ends on March 31, 2020, at 5:00 PM ET. ENTRIES SUBMITTED BEFORE OR AFTER THE SUBMISSION PERIOD WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

## **Essay Topic and Contest Regulations**

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**All essays must comply with the following contest rules before submission:**

- No literary form other than an essay will be accepted.
- Each essay must reflect the contestant's own research, writing and original thinking.
- Must cite sources.
- Only one (1) essay may be submitted by each contestant.
- Each contestant must complete, attach and submit a student entry form.
- Essays must be typed.
- **The essay text must consist of at least six (6) double-spaced, 12-point font, single-sided, numbered pages with one-inch margins.** The title page and bibliography are not included in the six pages.
- Each essay must include a title page (not considered text) with the following information:  
Essay title – Student's name and date
- *The name of your church and pastor should not be included in your essay. You can refer to him/her as "pastor" but do not list their name. Packet must include:*
  - Pastor's Letter of Recommendation (should be mailed to the scholarship committee).
  - Completed Registration Form
  - Transcript from current school (high school or college)
  - Acceptance letter or proof of current college enrollment.
  - Mail student entry packet along with two (2) copies of the essay to:  
Yolanda Ferguson, 13315 Hyperion Hills Lane, Charlotte, NC 28278

***NOTE: Entry is complete upon receipt of essay, registration form, current transcript, proof of college enrollment or high school graduation AND Pastor's Letter of Recommendation***

## Judging and Selection

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The Scholarship Committee will judge the essays based on scoring Rubric.

### **Notification of Winners**

- The winner(s) will be notified by April 2<sup>nd</sup> by the Scholarship Committee.
- If you are selected as a winner of the Contest and you do not contact the Sponsor within ten (10) days of the notification, you will forfeit your prize.
- Winners will be recognized during the SERF conference in April.

### **Prizes**

- There can be ***up to*** (3) Grand Prize winners receiving ***up to*** \$500 (five hundred dollars) to an accredited school approved by the committee.
- The prizes to be awarded to the winner(s) of the Contest are nontransferable and, as such, winner(s) may not designate someone else as the winner. If you are unable or unwilling to accept your prize, the Sponsor expressly reserves the right to select a new winner from the other contestants using the judging criteria or the money can/will remain in the Kenneth L Hill Scholarship fund for the following year.

**Student Entry Form**  
Southeast Regional Fellowship  
Student Essay Contest 2020

<i>Please print.</i>		
Mr. Miss. Name:		Grade:
School:		
School Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Your Church	Pastor's Name	
Submission Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Essay</b>	
Your Home address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
<b>Your contact</b> phone number:	Your email address:	
Area of Ministry in which you are active, your role(s):		

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD:

## CHECKLIST

Status	
	<p>Paper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cover page</li><li>• Paper – strong content and written in context</li><li>• Number of pages – 6 (does not include cover page or bibliography)</li><li>• Bibliography</li><li>• <b>Pastor’s Letter of Recommendation (should be mailed to the scholarship committee).</b></li><li>• <b>Completed Registration Form</b></li><li>• <b>Transcript from current school (high school or college)</b></li><li>• <b>Acceptance letter or proof of current college enrollment.</b></li><li>• <b>Mail student entry packet along with completed paper to: Yolanda Ferguson, 13315 Hyperion Hills Lane, Charlotte, NC 28278</b></li></ul>

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**For any questions or concerns please call Yolanda Ferguson at -704-651-4084**

# PASTOR LETTER OR RECOMMENDATION

(to be typed and submitted by the Pastor)

*Can be typed on church letterhead*

RE: \_\_\_\_\_ (name of Student)

Attention SERF Scholarship Committee: