# **Prairie Meadows** 2024 SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES



# PRAIRIE MEADOWS PURPOSE

Prairie Meadows has been a vital part of the Central Iowa community since it began operations in 1989. Over the years, our purpose has remained the same: to promote economic development, agriculture, jobs, and tourism, and to provide financial contributions to programs and organizations that improve the quality of life for all Iowans.

Prairie Meadows has given more than \$2.1 billion through taxes, grants, and charitable donations to the state of Iowa, with more than \$863 million remaining right here in our community.

#### SCHOLARSHIP OVERVIEW

Prairie Meadows has worked to further the educational opportunities of students in Polk County for nearly two decades. We are committed to a scholarship program that dedicates \$100,000 each year to high school seniors who choose to further their education in Iowa. We are proud to play a role in helping outstanding students continue to contribute their talents to our state.

# SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a Prairie Meadows 2024 Scholarship, students must meet all of the following criteria:

- 1. Graduating senior at one of the following Polk County high schools:
  - Ankeny High School
  - Bondurant-Farrar High School
  - Centennial High School
  - Dallas Center-Grimes High School
  - Dowling Catholic High School
  - + East High School
  - + Hoover High School
  - + Johnston High School
  - Lincoln High School
  - + Metro West Learning Academy

- North High School
- + North Polk High School
- + Options Academy
- + Roosevelt High School
- + Saydel High School
- + Southeast Polk High School
- Urbandale High School
- Valley High School
- Walnut Creek Campus
- 2. Accepted at and planning to attend an accredited Iowa institution of higher learning.
- 3. Enrolling as a full-time student (12 credit hours or more) for the fall 2024 semester.
- 4. United States citizen or permanent U.S. resident for the past two or more consecutive years.
- 5. Minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.

#### SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

The Prairie Meadows Scholarship is awarded during the recipient's freshman year of higher education. The recipient must attend school in the fall and spring semesters immediately following high school graduation. Scholarship money is to be used for tuition only.

The Prairie Meadows Scholarship is a \$2,500 award paid in two installments of \$1,250. Installments occur at the beginning of the fall and spring semesters. Scholarship recipient must successfully complete the fall semester before the spring semester installment is awarded.

#### SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The application provided must be completed and submitted in its entirety.

- □ Applications must be typed. **Handwritten applications will not be accepted.**
- □ **Do not attach** documents referencing information that is requested in the application. Use the provided application document.
- □ Answer essay question completely and thoroughly with a minimum of three paragraphs.

#### LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Scholarship applicants must provide two letters of recommendation. One must be from a school faculty member. The other may be from an employer, family friend, club/organization leader, etc.

#### DEADLINE

Completed scholarship applications and required documents must be submitted to your high school guidance counselor by Monday, April 1, 2024.

#### DOWNLOADING THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The application can be found on the Prairie Meadows website at prairiemeadows.com/about-us/scholarship-program

#### **SUBMISSION**

Return the following items to your high school guidance counselor by Monday, April 1, 2024.

- 1. Your completed, typed application including personal information, personal statement, and signed certificate of authorization.
- 2. Two letters of recommendation.
- 3. A copy of your current high school transcript (does not need to be official).
- 4. Digital photograph in .jpeg form.

Remember, applications must be typed. **Handwritten applications will not be accepted.** All information presented in your application must be communicated using the provided application document. **Do not attach** documents such as resumes to your application.

# **Prairie Meadows**

**2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION** 

# **APPLICANT INFORMATION**

First Name:		
Last Name:		
Parent/Guardian Name(s):		
Mailing Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Telephone number:		
Email address:		
Name of high school:		
Current Grade Point Average:		Current Class Rank:
Iowa college/school/university you plan to attend:		

Anticipated area of study:

# PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT

List any school-related/sponsored activities, community and civic activities, or volunteer and work experiences that you were involved in during the past four years.

#### **PERSONAL STATEMENT**

Respond to the following essay question completely and thoroughly with a minimum of three paragraphs.

1. How will the career you intend to pursue make a difference in your community?

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS RECEIVED**

Please list ALL scholarships/grants you have received at the time of submitting this application.

# **CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORIZATION**

The Prairie Meadows Scholarship Program requires your authorization to allow Prairie Meadows, the Iowa College Foundation, your high school, and the institution you plan to attend to (1) communicate and evaluate your application, academic standing, and other applicable information; (2) publicize your name and photo in connection with this scholarship, should you be selected as a recipient. Involved parties treat all information with strict confidence.

Your signature on this authorization and signature of a parent or legal guardian if you are under the age of 18 certifies that all information and materials submitted as part of this application are true and accurate.

#### **SIGNATURE:**

# **PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE:**

**DATE:**