



2012 Common
Scholarship Application
**Scholarship Opportunities
for Higher Education**

DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2012 BY 5 P.M.

Hazel Reed Baumeister Scholarship Program p3

Students showing academic excellence, extracurricular activities and a commitment to the community

Crain Educational Grant Program p3

Students showing academic excellence, extracurricular activities and a commitment to the community

Curry Award for Girls and Young Women p3

Young women who have undergone unusual hardships to remain in school

The Eustace-Kwan Family Foundation Scholarship p4

Students who are focused, able to articulate clear goals and determined to succeed in their chosen field of study and career

Ruppert Educational Grant Program p4

“Late-bloomers” with academic promise who have not yet reached their potential

Sand Hill Scholars Program p4

Graduates of the Ravenswood City School District who have overcome hardships to remain in school and who show motivation and leadership

What is Silicon Valley Community Foundation?

Silicon Valley Community Foundation was created in January 2007 from the landmark merger of Peninsula Community Foundation and Community Foundation Silicon Valley, both of which had served San Mateo and Santa Clara counties for more than 40 years. The community foundation is among the largest in the nation, with \$2 billion in assets under management and 1,500 philanthropic funds.

In a region known for innovation in business and technology as well as philanthropy, Silicon Valley Community Foundation is addressing local needs and supporting Silicon Valley’s charitable giving to causes locally, nationally and around the globe.

What is a scholarship fund?

Scholarship funds are charitable accounts established at Silicon Valley Community Foundation by generous individuals, organizations or corporations for the purpose of assisting students in continuing their education. Some funds are specific to residents of a city or county while others are directed to students interested in a specific field of study. In honoring loved ones or providing for a specific community, each scholarship expresses a deep belief in the power of education to help young people achieve their dreams. Scholarships do not need to be repaid.

How are eligibility requirements determined?

Scholarships are available through Silicon Valley Community Foundation thanks to the generosity of donors who have established scholarship funds with us. Each donor determines the eligibility criteria of his or her scholarship. Although all scholarships are based upon financial need, some scholarships also focus on academic achievement, academic potential or community service. Please read the specific requirements for each scholarship to determine if you are eligible.

What if I am not a “Straight A” student?

Silicon Valley Community Foundation offers scholarships for a variety of students, including the Ruppert Educational Grant Program, which awards students who show academic promise and improvement during the high school years and are likely to not receive other scholarships because of their grades.

May I apply for more than one scholarship?

Yes, so long as you meet the criteria for each scholarship to which you are applying. If you are using the Common Application, simply check off all of the scholarships for which you qualify on application ~ 4.

Will my personal information be shared?

No, your application information will not be shared with anyone except community foundation staff and the selection committees. For security reasons, we no longer require your social security number on your application. Please mark out your social security number if it appears on any of the documents you submit with your application.

Important Information

Eligibility: Each scholarship fund has specific eligibility criteria which were defined by the donor when the fund was established. These criteria are described in detail under each of the funds listed inside. Most of the scholarships require that applicants:

- Graduate from a public or private high school and/or reside in San Mateo County or Santa Clara County.
- Demonstrate financial need.
- Plan to attend an accredited two- or four-year college or university (Eustace-Kwan and Ruppert recipients can attend a vocational / career / trade school that focuses on providing formal preparation for skilled, technical or professional occupations such as dental hygienist, x-ray technician, court reporting, emergency medical technicians, etc.)
- Be a current full-time student and plan to attend college on a full-time basis.
- Be a United States citizen OR legal resident.

Required Application Materials

- Completed application form.
- Personal statement.
- Transcripts of grades.
- Two letters of recommendation.
- Proof of citizenship or legal residency.
- A copy of your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Student Aid Report (SAR) or Tax Form 1040.

Application Deadline

All materials must arrive in the office of Silicon Valley Community Foundation by

5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 15, 2012.

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Date of postmark and faxed applications will not be considered.

Mail or deliver completed applications to:

**Silicon Valley Community Foundation
2440 West El Camino Real, Suite 300
Mountain View, CA 94040**

Questions?

**Contact our Scholarship Hotline
at 650.450.5487 or
scholarships@siliconvalleycf.org**

Read these instructions carefully and thoroughly

We recommend you send your application and all of the supporting documents to us in one envelope.

1. Application Form

Applications must be complete to be considered. Attach additional pages if necessary. Attachments do not replace any part of the application. Each section must be completed. Additional sheets for activities, awards and honors, and employment sections must follow the application format.

2. Letters of Reference

Provide **two letters** of reference **only**.

- One letter from a teacher or academic advisor on school letterhead.
- One letter from a volunteer or work supervisor, youth leader or personal acquaintance. (Letters from work or volunteer supervisors must be on the organization's letterhead. Personal acquaintance letters can not come from parents or relatives.)

All letters must be signed and dated. Photocopies of letters of reference that were written for other scholarships or college applications for the **current academic year** are acceptable; however, keep in mind that these will not speak to how you are the best candidate for the scholarship for which you are currently applying. Letters may be sealed in their own envelopes.

3. Transcripts of Grades

Request your transcripts early as it may take 4-6 weeks.

Graduating high school applicants must include an **official high school transcript**. If you have taken college courses, an **official college transcript** must also be included for all work completed.

Current college applicants must include an **official college transcript** and must also include an **official or unofficial high school transcript**.

Photocopies or Internet generated transcripts are unacceptable.

4. Signed and Dated Personal Statement

Include a typed personal statement of at least 500 words, but no longer than 850 words (approximately 2-3 pages, double-spaced). In the statement, you must address the following prompts:

- Describe your short- and long-range goals and how furthering your education will assist you in reaching those goals.
- Comment on the personal characteristics, educational and extracurricular activities that have helped prepare you for college.
- Reflect on your personal journey (significant accomplishments, challenges and/or hardships) and any life lessons that you think will help you succeed in college.
- Indicate why you believe you are a good candidate for the specific scholarship(s) for which you are applying.
- Sign and date your personal statement.

5. Financial Need

Evidence of financial need must be submitted with all application packets.

If you applied for federal financial aid, enclose a copy of all pages of your 2012-2013 Student Aid Report (SAR). This includes the summary of your answers to the FAFSA and your Expected Family Contribution (EFC) (updated information regarding your FAFSA application can be found online at www.fafsa.ed.gov/).

OR

If you did not apply for federal financial aid, enclose a copy of the first two pages of your parent's or guardian's most recent Federal Tax Form 1040 (or your own if you are not a dependent).

6. Proof of Citizenship or Legal Residency

Refer to the eligibility requirements of each scholarship and provide the requested documentation for either proof of United States citizenship (photocopy of birth certificate, passport or naturalization papers) or documentation of legal residency (photocopy of visa or green card). Copy of driver's license or social security card will not be accepted.

7. Additional Requirements

Refer to each scholarship description for additional required material.

Scholarship Descriptions



Hazel Reed Baumeister

Hazel Reed Baumeister

Scholarship Amount:
Up to \$5,000 per award

Number of Awards: Up to 15

Previous recipients may reapply

This program was established in 2001 through the Trust of Mrs. Hazel Reed Baumeister, a longtime resident of Burlingame. Mrs. Baumeister attended business school and later worked from 1933 to 1939 as confidential executive secretary to United States Senator Pat McCarran from Nevada. The purpose of the scholarship, established in her memory, is to support high school graduates of high academic achievement who would be unable to pursue higher education without financial assistance. The selection committee looks for academic promise, documented perseverance in activities outside the classroom, the quality of the personal statement and personal characteristics such as honesty, good judgment and commitment to serving the community. Students may apply to both the Crain Educational Grant Program and the Hazel Reed Baumeister Scholarship Program, but may receive only one of these scholarships.

- Current graduating senior or graduate of a public or private high school in San Mateo County or Santa Clara County
- United States citizen
- Demonstrated financial hardship
- Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- Demonstrated community involvement over a period of several years

Crain Educational Grant Program

Scholarship Amount:
Up to \$5,000 per award

Number of Awards: Up to 10

Finalists will be asked to interview with the scholarships selection committee.

Previous recipients may reapply

This program was established in 1987 in memory of Dr. R. Carter Crain and Mildred E. Crain, through Mrs. Crain's will. The purpose of the scholarship is to enable high school graduates to pursue courses of study that they would otherwise be unable to follow due to limited financial means. The selection committee looks for academic promise, documented perseverance in activities outside the classroom, the quality of the personal statement and personal characteristics such as honesty, good judgment and commitment to serving the community. Students may apply to both the Crain Educational Grant Program and the Hazel Reed Baumeister Scholarship Program, but may receive only one of these scholarships.

- Current graduating senior or graduate of a public or private high school in San Mateo County or Santa Clara County
- United States citizen
- Demonstrated financial hardship
- Minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- Demonstrated community involvement over a period of several years



Eleanor Williams Curry

Curry Award for Girls and Young Women

Scholarship Amount: \$1,000 per award

Number of Awards: Up to 10

Previous recipients may reapply

This fund was established by Eleanor Williams Curry, an active civic leader on the Peninsula. The award is for young women who are self-motivated, need financial support and attempt to achieve despite tremendous obstacles. Young women who have dropped out of school for reasons beyond their control, or have undergone unusual hardships to remain in school are encouraged to apply. The selection committee considers additional circumstances related to possible ethnic or racial discrimination, physical disability or the choice of a nontraditional area of study.

- Young woman aged 16 to 26
- Current resident of San Mateo County
- United States citizen OR legal resident
- Demonstrated financial hardship
- Current graduating senior, a high school graduate or have a G.E.D.

The Eustace-Kwan Family Foundation Scholarship

Amount: Up to \$5,000 per award

Number of Awards: Up to 20

Finalists will be asked to interview with the scholarships selection committee.

Previous recipients may reapply

This scholarship was established in 2006 through a gift from the Eustace-Kwan Family Foundation. This program is designed to enhance scholarship opportunities for promising high school and college students pursuing higher education at an accredited two- or four-year college or vocational school. The selection committee looks for students who are focused, able to articulate clear goals, determined to succeed in their chosen field of study and career, and whose educational opportunities will be increased by financial assistance. In addition, the selection committee will take into consideration the overall quality of the personal statement and whether students activities align with stated goals. Special consideration will be given to working students.

- Current resident of San Mateo County OR northern Santa Clara County (Daly City through Mountain View) OR previous Eustace-Kwan Family Foundation Scholarship recipient
- Current graduating high school senior planning to attend a two- or four-year college or vocational school OR current college freshman (up to 29 semester or 44.8 quarter units or as defined by school of attendance) OR sophomore (31 – 60 semester or 44.9 – 89.9 quarter units or as defined by school of attendance)
- A cumulative grade point average between 3.0 and 3.70 on a 4.0 scale (un-weighted GPA)
- Demonstrated school and/or extra-curricular activities (volunteer or jobs)
- Demonstrated financial need
- United States citizen OR legal resident



Nellie Hale Ruppert, Amanda Miller Edwards

Ruppert Educational Grant Program

Scholarship Amount: Up to \$5,000

Number of Awards: Up to 30

Previous recipients may reapply

Ruppert Educational Grant Program The Ruppert Educational Grant Program was established through a trust and bequest agreement by Ralph Hale Ruppert and Lenore Martha Ruppert in memory of their mothers, Nellie Hale Ruppert and Amanda Miller Edwards. The program is designed to give aid to young people who have financial need and are willing to help themselves. Scholarships are awarded to “late-bloomers”— those students who show academic promise and improvement during the high school years, but are unlikely to receive other scholarships because of their low GPAs. Scholarships are awarded for full-time enrollment in accredited two- or four-year colleges, universities or vocational schools.

- Applicant is a “late bloomer” who demonstrates academic promise and continuous GPA improvement during high school or college
- Maximum cumulative grade point average of 3.3 on a 4.0 scale
- United States citizen OR legal resident
- Current graduating senior or graduate of a public or private high school in San Mateo County or Santa Clara County
- Demonstrated financial hardship
- Demonstrated community involvement



Tom and Susan Ford

Sand Hill Scholars Program

Scholarship Amount: Up to \$10,000 (paid over four years)

Number of Awards: Up to 2

Finalists will be asked to interview with the scholarships selection committee.

Scholarship is renewable for 4 years provided renewal requirements are met.

The Sand Hill Scholars Program was created by Thomas W. Ford and Susan B. Ford, and is underwritten by the Sand Hill Foundation. This program, which provides scholarships for promising students who graduated from the Ravenswood City School District in East Palo Alto, is the successor of the Ronald McNair Scholars Fund. Preference is given to students who have shown motivation and leadership, have overcome hardships to remain in school or have been involved in educational, job-related or community activities outside the school environment.

- Eighth-grade graduate of the Ravenswood City School District (documentation must accompany the application)
- Current graduating senior attending a high school in San Mateo County or northern Santa Clara County (Daly City through Mountain View)
- United States citizen OR legal resident

About Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Silicon Valley Community Foundation is a catalyst and leader for innovative solutions to our region's most challenging problems. Serving all of San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, the community foundation has \$2 billion in assets under management and 1,500 philanthropic funds. The community foundation provides grants through donor advised and corporate funds in addition to its own endowment funds. The community foundation serves as a regional center for philanthropy, providing donors simple and effective ways to give locally and around the world. Find out more at www.siliconvalleycf.org.

The vision of Silicon Valley Community Foundation is to be a comprehensive center for philanthropy that inspires greater civic participation throughout San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. The mission of Silicon Valley Community Foundation is to strengthen the common good, improve quality of life and address the most challenging problems. We do this through visionary community leadership, world-class donor services and effective grantmaking.

Scholarship Programs at Silicon Valley Community Foundation

For many individuals and organizations, providing scholarships for students to support their educational pursuits is a rewarding and effective way to meet their charitable objectives. Silicon Valley Community Foundation's scholarship program is committed to providing opportunities for those interested in helping talented young people to pursue their dreams through a quality education. Scholarship funds at the community foundation vary by size of endowment and in complexity of criteria; however, their common element is the charitable spirit of the donors who created them. In honoring loved ones or providing for a specific community, each scholarship expresses a deep belief in the power of education to help individuals achieve their dreams.

For more information about establishing a scholarship fund at Silicon Valley Community Foundation, contact donate@siliconvalleycf.org or 650.450.5444.

For additional information about applying for scholarships please contact scholarships@siliconvalleycf.org.

Scholarship recipients from 2011 and more information about 2012 scholarship programs are at www.siliconvalleycf.org/scholarships.



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To read more about Silicon Valley Community Foundation
visit www.siliconvalleycf.org