

Utah Valley University
Board of Trustees
ENGAGED LEARNING SCHOLARSHIP

Recommendation

Based upon the Board of Trustees desire to establish a Trustees' scholarship to encourage engaged learning activities, individual discussions were held with most board members as to the goal and expected outcome of the scholarship and the type of recipient desired. These discussions and discussions with internal stakeholders resulted in the attached suggested award criteria and procedures. It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees Engaged Learning Scholarship as described below. This recommendation has been approved by the President and the Vice President of Development of Alumni Relations.

Background

In January 2016 the Utah Valley University Board of Trustees expressed a desire to establish an annual scholarship to be awarded based on a student's engaged learning project and activities, and to be funded with personal contributions from board members.

In discussions with the Trustees collectively and individually, it was determined the scholarship should be based primarily on the merits of a student's engaged learning project. While the student should have a track record of good academic performance, this does not necessarily mean the student will have a top tier GPA. The merits of a student's engaged learning project will be weighted heavily and will take priority over academic GPA.

The Trustees will have the opportunity to give input on the selection of the recipient; however their participation in the process will be in a consulting/advisory role only. This is necessary to maintain the integrity of each Trustee's personal, tax-deductible gift to the scholarship. Final selection of the recipient is the responsibility of a UVU committee consisting of appropriate faculty and staff.

It is hoped an annual award of \$5000 or more can be awarded each year, however, the actual amount of the scholarship may vary each year based on the cumulative contributions by the Trustees each year.

The goal is for 100% of the Trustees to participate in contributing to the scholarship, but there is no set amount that each Trustee is expected to contribute.

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Award Criteria

1. Scholarship will be advertised to students through the Office of the Associate Vice-President, Engaged Learning. Application will be made available on the Engaged Learning webpages.
2. Application Due Date will be January 15th each year.
3. Applications will be reviewed by a UVU committee from Engaged Learning. The Committee will select the top three candidates in a manner that is consistent with regularly established scholarship procedures and in keeping with the award criteria outlined below.
 - a. Minimum 3.0 GPA is required.
 - b. Applicant must submit a project proposal and budget for the engaged learning project.
 - c. A letter of recommendation from the faculty mentor/advisor involved in the engaged learning project must accompany the student's application.
 - d. Award will be based on the applicant's involvement in engaged learning project. A compelling engaged learning project will appraise higher than the application's academic performance.
4. Top three candidates selected by the Committee will make a brief presentation at the Board of Trustee's meeting scheduled for February of each year. Trustees will be invited to give their input on each finalist, but responsibility for final selection rests with the Committee.
5. The UVU Committee will then select the recipient based on their previous evaluation scores of the candidates and with consideration of the Trustees' input.
 - a. Scholarship award will be processed by the Financial Aid Scholarship Office
 - b. Recipient will be invited to attend the annual Trustees' Awards of Excellence Banquet
6. At the completion of the recipient's engaged learning project, they will be required to make a presentation to the Board of Trustees regarding the project, its outcome and their experience.