

Redhawk First Steps Scholarship Policies

Scholarship description: The USD 415 Educational Foundation Redhawk First Steps Scholarship was established by the Foundation in 2022 because of educators and parents identifying the need for financial support of students at Hiawatha High School. The scholarships will support students enrolling in Highland Community College dual credit courses. The scholarship may expand in the future for opportunities beyond Highland Community College.

Funding resources: The funding of the scholarship will be from multiple sources and will continue to evolve. Sources include Hiawatha Community Foundation Day of Giving campaigns, private donations, general use donations to the Foundation, and Moore Trust Scholarship funds.

Objective: The primary intention of the scholarship is to assist students with financial need, who otherwise would not be able to enroll in dual credit college courses during their high school career. The secondary intention is to help as many students as possible based on available annual funding. If funding is limited for the secondary intention, preference will be to help the greatest number of students and/or preference will be to those students who have received less funding previously. The Foundation and Scholarship committee will maintain records of prior funding based on student name, semester, number of credits, and scholarship award to assist with these decisions.

Qualifications: Students must be attending Hiawatha High School and be enrolled in college credits for the upcoming semester at the time of application. Summer course tuition will not be funded at this time. The scholarship will not have a separate qualification for GPA. If the post-secondary educational institution accepts the student's enrollment, the student is eligible for this scholarship.

Financial need: Financial need will be determined by the Redhawk First Steps Scholarship committee members through information available at the USD 415 Board Office, provided that a parent or guardian granted permission to access the Free & Reduced Meal Application on file. The student is also asked to provide a statement on why they have financial need. Statements will be kept confidential.

Stakeholders: The High School Counselor's Office will be responsible for communicating the scholarship opportunity to students and teachers. The Foundation will communicate the scholarship opportunity through local media which may include newspapers, radio, and social media.

Application process:

- Applications will be available through the HHS Counselor's office or the school website <https://www.hiawathaschools.org/page/student-services-office>
- Deadlines:
 - May 1st for Fall semester enrollment.
 - December 1st for Spring semester enrollment.
- Submit application to the USD 415 Board of Education Office

Scholarship committee: A Redhawk First Steps Scholarship Committee will be formed from members of the Foundation, along with a member of the HHS Counselor's Office and one or more high school educators.

Redhawk First Steps Scholarship Application

The USD 415 Educational Foundation Redhawk First Step Scholarship was established in 2022 because of educators and parents identifying the need for financial support of students at Hiawatha High School earning college or vocational credits before high school graduation.

The Counselor’s Office will assist with any questions you may have about the scholarship or the application information. Other questions or concerns may be addressed by the Foundation at edfoundation@usd415.org. Return this application by the due date to the USD 415 Board of Education Office at 706 S First Street in Hiawatha.

Student Information

Student’s name	
Street address	
Town, State	
Student phone	
Student email	
Year in school	<input type="checkbox"/> Freshman <input type="checkbox"/> Sophomore <input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/> Senior
Semester (Circle)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fall (Due on May 1st) <input type="checkbox"/> Spring (Due on December 1st)
Financial Need (Circle)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I have a financial need. <input type="checkbox"/> No, I do not have a financial need.
Briefly explain the reason for your financial need.	

Parent or Guardian Information

Parent or Guardian Name	
Telephone number	
Additional Parent or Guardian Name	
Telephone number	
Parent or Guardian Signature:	
<p>As a parent or guardian, do you authorize the First Steps Scholarship Committee to confidentially confirm financial need based on the Free & Reduced Meals application on file at the USD 415 School Board office?</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I authorize release of information <input type="checkbox"/> No, I do not authorize release of information </p>	

Higher Education Institution Information

Are you enrolled in classes at Highland Community College (HCC) for the upcoming semester?	___ Yes ___ No
Are you enrolled in a school other than HCC?	___ Yes ___ No
Name of the school if not HCC:	

Upcoming Semester Enrollment: must be enrolled at the time of application

Course number	Course Name for the upcoming semester only	Number of credits

Other Information: Add any remaining information here that you feel the application did not cover that is important to know about your situation.

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