

Southwest Georgia Technical College, Foundation Inc.

Scholarship Policies and Procedures

Bill and Lillian Raney Scholarship

Made available by:

Bill and Lillian Raney and State Farm Companies Foundation

BACKGROUND

In December 2004, Bill and Lillian Raney established the Bill and Lillian Raney Scholarship Fund by making an initial contribution of \$1,000 that was matched by the State Farm Companies Foundation. The first scholarship in the amount of \$500 will be awarded Fall 2005 (calendar year). The remaining \$500 and the match amount contributed by the State Farm Companies Foundation will be reserved as an endowment corpus until directed otherwise by Mr. Raney.

PURPOSE

To assist students enrolled at Southwest Georgia Technical College with education related expenses.

PROCEDURES

Applicants must be currently enrolled in a program of study at Southwest Georgia Technical College. A minimum of 12 hours must be completed and earned at SWGTC.

Applicants must complete a SWGTC Scholarship Application form (Attachment A).

Applicants must compose an essay titled, *"Why I chose technical education"*. (Maximum 250 words)

Applicants must obtain a letter of recommendation from a fulltime member of the SWGTC Faculty, high school counselor, clergy, or etc. The letter should communicate the author's observations of the student's potential to become a skilled employee in the field of study that the student is pursuing. Letters of recommendation must be on letterhead with a current date and an original signature.

Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.0 and must submit a copy of their transcript.

REVIEW PROCESS

The Executive Director of the Southwest Georgia Technical College Foundation has established a committee to review the Bill and Lillian Raney Scholarship applications. Members of the committee include the Vice President for Academic Affairs, College Counselor and the Retention Coordinator.

The Bill and Lillian Raney Scholarship recipient will be selected utilizing the attached evaluation document.

Committee members will independently score each application submitted. The applicant receiving the highest average score will be awarded the scholarship.

In the event of a tie committee members will request a follow-up interview with the top two candidates. The follow-up question will be, "Why should you be selected to receive this scholarship?" Committee members will vote on one candidate based upon their responses.

The primary intent of the scholarship program of the SWGTC Foundation is to assist students with tuition, fees, and book expenses through need-based and merit-based scholarships. For this reason, all scholarship applicants are required to apply for financial aid. Financial aid awards will be considered in the scholarship awards process.

Southwest Georgia Technical College Foundation funded scholarships are to be used at Southwest Georgia Technical College only (Thomas County, Grady County, Mitchell County, and the Valdosta Technical College A.D.N. program) and are not transferrable to other institutions.

Southwest Georgia Technical College Foundation scholarships are intended for approved educational related expenses only, as set forth in the scholarship policies. Any fraudulent use of scholarship funds or misrepresentation of expense to gain reimbursement will result in termination of scholarship funding and ineligibility to apply for future Southwest Georgia Technical College Foundation scholarship funding opportunity.

Scholarship accounts that remain inactive for one year will be adjusted and unused funds will be transferred back to the SWGTC Foundation. Exceptions to this policy will be in cases where the length of time the scholarship can remain in the student's account before usage are outlined in the individual scholarship policy (such as the High School Scholarship and other recruitment-based scholarships).

Approved: November 1, 2005

Revised: October 8, 2008; 7/09; 11/09; 7/10

Bill and Lillian Raney Scholarship Evaluation

1. Academic Achievement

Grade Point Average

(90-100)	4.0	= 5 pts.
(85-89)	3.5-3.99	= 4 pts.
(80-84)	3.0-3.49	= 3 pts.
(74-79)	2.5-2.99	= 2 pts.
(70-73)	2.0-2.49	= 1 pts.

2. Essay

Followed criteria	= 1 - 5 pts.
Grammatically correct	= 1 - 5 pts.
Defined characteristics	= 1 - 5 pts.
Illustrated personal commitment	= 1 - 5 pts.
Compelling case	= 1 - 5 pts.

3. Faculty Evaluation

Supports student as recipient	= 1 - 5 pts.
Specific observations	= 1 - 5 pts.
Commonalities with essay	= 1 - 5 pts.