2020 APPLICATION GUIDE

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Scott Mecham BBB Student of Integrity Awards have been established to:

• honor the memory of Scott Mecham who served as the Better Business Bureau President from 1991 until January 2006
• recognize high school seniors who personify the values of leadership and integrity that Mr. Mecham exemplified - humility, courage, compassion and respect
• emphasize the importance of ethical behavior, community service and academic accomplishments
• strengthen BBB ties to the communities it serves
• establish relationships with future business leaders

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

• Qualifies as a high school senior
• Plans to continue education after high school graduation
• Resides in BBB’s service area - Nebraska, South Dakota, The Kansas Plains (all counties except: Franklin, Johnson, Leavenworth, Linn, Miami and Wyandotte) or Southwest Iowa (includes: Cass, Fremont, Harrison, Mills, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie and Shelby counties)

AWARDS & JUDGING CRITERIA

Three $2,000 scholarships will be presented to students from each of the following areas:

1. Omaha Metro Area /Southwest Iowa
2. Lincoln Metro Area /Greater Nebraska
3. South Dakota
4. The Kansas Plains

Scholarship recipients will be selected by independent panels of judges from the academic and business communities in Omaha, Lincoln, Sioux Falls and Wichita and will be awarded based on the following judging criteria:

• Essay Content = 50%
• Community Service = 20%
• Leadership = 20%
• Recommendations = 5%
• Academic = 5%

The names of the twelve award winners will be announced by Better Business Bureau in April 2020.

Award winners will each receive a $2,000 scholarship to an accredited school/college of their choice. Scholarships will be distributed directly to their post-secondary institutions upon verification of enrollment.

Scholarships must be applied toward tuition and/or room and board.
APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Entries must be submitted as a package and include all of the items listed below. Each item should be labeled and typed on a separate 8.5” x 11” sheet of paper.

Scholarship Award Checklist:

_____ A. Application Form
_____ B. Description and dates of school-related extracurricular activities: include awards/honors and/or offices held
_____ C. Description and dates of participation in any work experiences, community activities and/or organizational participation: include awards/honors and/or offices held

Note: Items B and C can be listed on a single page in two separate lists

_____ D. Two letters of recommendation: One from a school official including: principal, teacher, counselor, coach or any other school employee and one from an employer, community leader or a representative from a religious institution
1) You send the link to the people who are recommending you, and they can fill it out online, print it and give it to you for submission with the rest of your application materials or
2) You send the link to the people who are recommending you, and they can write their own recommendation in a separate letter, attach it to the Recommendation Form and give it to you for submission with the rest of your application materials

_____ E. Description of post-secondary education plans

_____ F. Provide one of the following:
   1) If attending an accredited high school, a photo copy of the most recent transcript or
   2) A photo copy of ACT or SAT score

_____ G. Response to the following essay topic that should be approximately 500 words

Essay:

Describe a situation that you were personally involved in that tested your ethical philosophy and integrity. Please include the following:

• What were your choices in solving this ethical dilemma?*
• What were the potential outcomes of each choice?
• What was your final decision to resolve the dilemma?
• How did your decision affect you and those who were involved or those who could be affected?

*An ethical dilemma is a decision-making problem between two possible moral imperatives, neither of which is clearly acceptable or preferable. The complexity arises out of the situational conflict in which obeying one would result in transgressing another. Ethical dilemmas force one to choose between equally desirable or undesirable alternatives, or balancing options.

Retain a copy of your completed entry. All materials submitted become the property of Better Business Bureau, Inc.

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

Omaha Metro Area/Southwest Iowa Residents
mail to: Margo Riekes Better Business Bureau 11811 P St Omaha, NE 68137

Lincoln Metro Area/Greater Nebraska Residents
mail to: Tami Barrett Better Business Bureau 300 N 44th St Suite 100 Lincoln, NE 68503

South Dakota Residents
mail to: Jessie Schmidt Better Business Bureau 300 N Phillips Ave Suite 100 Sioux Falls, SD 57104

Kansas Plains Residents
mail to: Denise Groene Better Business Bureau 125 S Washington St Suite 100 Wichita, KS 67202

DEADLINE

Entries must be postmarked by Friday, March 6, 2020.

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, contact BBB Communications Director Margo Riekes at 402-898-8526, 800-649-6814 #8526 or mriekes@bbbinc.org.