

## 2024 TORCH Foundation – Hometown Hero Community Impact Scholarship Application



### **ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP**

Rural Texas is a place of enormous significance and is home to so many who do incredible work and makes a difference. This scholarship is inspired by and seeks to honor those hometown heroes who work tirelessly, selflessly – often with little means besides their grit, talent and sense of community and service – to improve their lives and help make their community a great place to live.

### **ABOUT TORCH FOUNDATION**

TORCH Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit affiliate of the Texas Organization of Rural & Community Hospitals (TORCH), a member-based, member-led association that represents 158 rural hospitals in Texas. Our mission is to promote the success of rural Texas hospitals by working collaboratively and leveraging resources to provide quality programs and services.

### **APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY**

- (1) Eligible Applicants must live and work in a Texas rural county with fewer than 68,750 in population;
- (2) Whose story and work through service, education, leadership, innovation or engagement contributes to positive social impact or community improvement and well-being; and
- (3) Whose effort is already having an impact but could go farther and have greater impact with financial support.

### **AWARD AMOUNT**

One \$15,000 scholarship will be awarded

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Completed application, including all required documents, must be received TORCH Foundation by 5:00 PM August 30, 2024.

### **TIMELINE**

- Scholarship Application Release 7/31/2024
- Scholarship Application Deadline 8/30/2024
- Anticipated Announcement of Selected 2024 Scholarship 9/12/2024
- Award Recognition – the selected recipient will be recognized at the TORCH Fall Conference Awards Luncheon at the Kalahari Resort in Round Rock, TX 9/25/2023

### **QUESTIONS**

Direct all questions in writing to [scholarships@torchnet.org](mailto:scholarships@torchnet.org) or [qngo@torchnet.org](mailto:qngo@torchnet.org).

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### **APPLICATION SUBMISSION:**

Mail application to:  
TORCH Foundation  
3309 Forest Creek Drive, Suite 305  
Round Rock, TX 78664

Or, via email to:  
[scholarships@torchnet.org](mailto:scholarships@torchnet.org)

### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Complete the application and submit all required documentation. Incomplete application/information may result in disqualification. Use the Application Check List provided to ensure completeness. Keep a copy of your completed application.
2. Print or type information on Pages 2-4 (I. Personal Information, II. Scholastic Information, and III. Employment Information). Do not substitute forms. Minimal additional supplemental information may be accepted.
3. Print or type an essay and include it with your application as directed on page 5. The essay must be Applicant's original thoughts, in his/her own words, and written by the Applicant.
4. Include a Letter of Recommendation from someone who can attest to your character and qualities. Provide the recommendation instructions as described on page 5 to this person. Recommendations must be printed or typed and included with your application submission.
5. The selected Award Recipient will be recognized at the 2024 TORCH Fall Conference on September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Kalahari Resort in Round Rock, TX (3001 Kalahari Blvd, Round Rock, TX 78665). If you are selected, please indicate if you/your family plan to attend.
6. Completed application, including all required documentation, must be received by TORCH Foundation no later than **5:00 pm, August 30, 2024.**

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

### **I. PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_  Cell  Home

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

If selected for the Award, will you be able to attend the TORCH Fall Conference Award Luncheon at the Kalahari Resort in Round Rock, Texas on 9/25/2024?  Yes  No

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**II. APPLICANT ESSAY (3-page maximum)**

- (a) Please attach a narrative that tells us your story – your work, education, goal(s)/aspiration(s), why it matters, and how it has made a difference to your community. Include relevant details regarding your service, leadership, innovation and/or engagement that leads to positive social/community impact, improvement or well-being.
  
- (b) Describe how this award would help advance your work, education, goal/aspiration and the impact it would have.

**III. LETTER(S) OF RECOMMENATION**

Please attach a letter of recommendation. The letter of recommendations should include

- Name, title, organization and contact information (phone and email address) of person providing the recommendation
- Affiliation to or capacity in which person providing the recommendation knows the Applicant
- Why the Applicant is deserving of this Award, including a description of the Applicant’s character, achievements or perseverance, and his/her unique qualities and/or contribution.

**IV. APPLICANT CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE**

By signing below, I certify that the information provided in this application is true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

**Applicant Name (print)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION COMPLETION CHECKLIST**

This application checklist is provided for your use to ensure your application is complete.

- Section I – Applicant Information is complete
- Section II – Applicant Essay (3-page maximum) is included
- Section III – Applicant Certification and Signature: Application is signed and dated
- Your Applicant Essay (3-page maximum) is included
- Letter of Recommendation is included