2016 FCB SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The 2016 Florida Council of the Blind Scholarship Program consists of awards totaling $4,000.00, offered to outstanding students enrolled in academic, professional or technical education beyond the high school level.

• $1,500.00 Gayle M. Krause-Edwards Scholarship - Offered to an applicant who demonstrates superior leadership and outstanding academic performance, and who is enrolled full-time in a college or university in a course of study which will increase advancement potential in his/her chosen field.

• $1,000.00 Teresa Blessing Scholarship - Offered to an applicant who demonstrates leadership skills and academic proficiency, and who is enrolled full-time in a college or university.

• $1,000.00 Timothy Turpin Scholarship - Offered to a high school student exhibiting leadership skills and academic proficiency, and who is planning to attend college, university, or a technical institute full-time.

• $500.00 Bobbie Probst Scholarship - offered to an applicant who demonstrates leadership skills and academic proficiency, and who is enrolled part-time in a college, university or technical institute.

All applicants must have at least a 3.0 grade-point average (GPA), or a non-GPA equivalent, with the exception of the Gayle M. Krause-Edwards Scholarship. To be considered for the prestigious Gayle M. Krause-Edwards $1,500.00 scholarship an applicant must have a minimum of a 3.2 GPA, or a non-GPA equivalent, and have completed one semester in a college or university.

While an applicant may be qualified for either the Gayle M. Krause-Edwards Scholarship or the Teresa Blessing Scholarship, he/she can only receive one of these scholarships in any given year. Anyone receiving any of the four FCB Scholarships in a given year may not apply for any FCB Scholarship in the following year. An individual can, however, receive the same FCB Scholarship in non-consecutive years - for example, may receive the Teresa Blessing Scholarship in his/her sophomore and senior years.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Applicant must be legally blind. That is, the applicant must have vision in the better eye of no more than 20/200 with corrective lenses OR may have vision greater than 20/200 in the better eye, but with a restricted field of vision of no more than 20 degrees.
2. Applicant must be a current resident of the State of Florida. However, the college, university, or technical institute does not have to be in Florida.

3. Applicant must have a high school diploma or a high school equivalency diploma. (High school students who are graduating this term may also apply.)

4. Applicant must be enrolled in an accredited college, university, or technical institute, or be accepted for enrollment. A letter of acceptance is required.

5. Applicant must be seeking a college degree or certificate.

6. Undergraduate applicants who are full-time must carry at least 12 credit hours per semester/quarter to be eligible for the full-time scholarships; those who are part-time must carry a minimum of 6 credit hours per semester/quarter to be eligible for the $500.00 scholarship. Applicants attending a technical institute or pursuing a Masters, PhD or other post-graduate degree must be considered full-time by their institution to qualify for a full-time scholarship (There is no minimum hour requirement); and, if they are not, they may apply for the part-time scholarship.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS WHICH MUST ACCOMPANY THIS APPLICATION INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

1. An explanatory or descriptive statement regarding vocational objectives and outlook for employment in your chosen field. Please include any awards or scholarships you have received or that are pending. Part-time students must include an explanation for part-time status (e.g. employed student, family responsibilities, etc.).

2. Two letters of recommendation.

3. Sealed official transcript from school currently or most recently attended.

4. Letter of acceptance from accredited college or university.

5. Certification of visual status (detailed physician’s eye report) MUST be mailed by certifying entity.

NOTE: Certification of visual status and transcript(s) MUST be postmarked no later than March 12, 2016.

Please forward Certification of visual status and transcript(s) to:

Florida Council of the Blind
C/o Sheila Young
2304 Amherst Ave.
Orlando, FL 32804
Please email complete application packet, including all recommendation letters and supporting documents to sheilayoung125@att.net. If any assistance is needed in completing your online application, please contact Sheila Young at 407-425-9200.

The Education and Leadership Committee will review all applications and interview qualified applicants. Recipients will be notified prior to the state annual convention.

The 2016 FCB Annual convention will be held at:

Lexington Hotel & Conference Center, Jacksonville Riverwalk  
1515 Prudential Drive  
Jacksonville, Florida 32207  
904-396-5100

All scholarship recipients will be invited to attend the annual state convention in May. Each Scholarship recipient and one guest will be given hotel accommodations for one night and one ticket each to the Awards Ceremony on Friday, May 13, 2016, where all Scholarship recipients will be announced. Additional award dinner tickets may be purchased by scholarship recipients if desired.

The Florida Council of the Blind will reimburse the transportation costs for each Scholarship recipient and one guest by train or bus. Mileage by automobile to the convention will be reimbursed on the following basis: $0.445 per mile.

All scholarship recipients attending the Sunday morning business meeting will be recognized by the committee.

For more information about our Scholarship program, you may contact Sheila Young at sheilayoung125@att.net or by phone at 407-425-9200.