

# *Dr. Melody Smith Scholarship Fund*

**Purpose:** This fund was established in recognition of Dr. Melody Smith by the St. Joseph School District Foundation to provide academic scholarships to graduates of the St. Joseph School District pursuing a degree in education.

**Criteria:** In order to be eligible for the scholarship, students must meet the following:

Tier 1: The students eligible for assistance shall be graduating seniors of the St. Joseph School District intending to pursue a degree in education through a four-year college/university. Preference will be given to early childhood, English, fine arts education and agribusiness/life sciences majors.

Tier 2: The students eligible for assistance shall be a St. Joseph School District teacher who graduated from the St. Joseph School District pursuing a graduate degree in education through a four-year college/university. Preference will be given to graduate level degrees in school administration for the purpose of being an elementary, middle, or high school teacher or administrator.

**If there are no eligible applicants as described in tier 1, an applicant will be chosen from the tier 2 applicants.**

Student must be accepted into the Education Program and continue to attend classes keeping a 3.0 grade point average (or equivalent).

**Application:**

Submit the following:

- Scholarship application on a form provided by the Foundation
- Transcript
- Tier 1 High school attendance percentage (no less than 94% with preference given to 96% and higher/Tier 2 Evidence of public education employment
- Essay of intent for program including community involvement, personal attributes and how those attributes will apply to teaching (Tier 1) or administration (Tier 2) and your goals and timeline for completion.

**Guidelines:**

The scholarship is recurring for up to two years, payable in August and January. Before processing the payments, the following information will need to be sent to the Community Foundation during the **sophomore year of college**:

- Verification of acceptance into the Education Program from the Program Director (or a copy of the education major/minor form signed by the student and academic advisor)
- Letter from the University verifying your enrollment for the upcoming semester including the student ID number
- Verification from the university that the student is maintaining a GPA of 3.0 or higher

**Amount:**

Minimum of \$1,000 annually, for up to two years for Tier 1 or while in program not to exceed four semesters for Tier 2. The second installment will be released upon proof of good academic progress (transcript required as proof) and enrollment in the declared education program.

**Deadline:**

Applications are accepted until March 1<sup>st</sup> with formal announcements made in April of each year.

**Community Foundation of Northwest Missouri, Inc.  
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