**RRHRPA 2023 Scholarship Application Instructions**

The Rock River Human Resources Professional Association (RRHRPA) is a professional association serving the Lee, Whiteside and Ogle counties and surrounding communities, dedicated to professional development and networking with local HR professionals. Even small businesses without a dedicated HR department can benefit from being a RRHRPA member.

Each year, RRHRPA offers a $500 scholarship to applicants meeting the following criteria:

* College Freshman, Sophomore, Junior or Senior in the Fall semester
* Reside in Whiteside, Lee, or Ogle Counties, or surrounding communities
* Major/minor in Business with emphasis in Human Resources/Communications
* Participation in extracurricular activities

**Required documentation:**

1. A completed RRHRPA Scholarship Application. Please fill in all blanks. “NA” may be entered in spaces that are not applicable.
2. Include a copy of your High School or College transcript
3. We require at least one letter of recommendation. Either from an academic source or an extra-curricular source who knows the applicant well. Letter should include contact information for follow up purposes.
4. At least a 300 word essay discussing what excites you about your future major/minor in Business with emphasis in Human Resources/Communications.
   * Demonstrate clarity and articulation in presenting your opinion on the topic.
   * Within your essay, include your motivation for applying for this scholarship.
   * Please explain why you desire this scholarship and how it will impact your further education.
   * Be certain to introduce yourself and your current school.
   * Entries to this scholarship will be evaluated based on content; what you say and how you say it are important. This is an opportunity for you to provide insight into your story and distinguish yourself from other applicants!

**All scholarships applications must be received by April 15, 2023, without exception**. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please DO NOT mail anything that should be sent with this application separate. Everything must be sent in and received together. If anything is missing your application will be considered incomplete.

Scholarship funds are sent directly to the relevant academic institution the student will be attending. The academic institution must be accredited by a nationally recognized accreditation group. The academic institution may be a college, university, two-year College, junior college, trade school, or other comparable institution.

Winners will be notified by email or phone in mid-May 2023. The scholarship winning student is strongly encouraged to be available to receive their award in-person at one of our RRHRPA meetings or events.