



THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION  
of The Georgia Society of CPAs

## Matching Funds Program Guidelines

### Matching Funds Program:

The Scholarship and Awards Committee of The Educational Foundation offers chapters the opportunity to award their own scholarships through the Matching Funds Program. Chapters can submit funds, up to \$2,000 in the 2016-17 fiscal year, that will be matched by The Educational Foundation \$0.75 on the dollar. The combined total amount, up to \$3,500, is then returned to the chapter to be used for scholarships to students and/or financial support to local college and university accounting programs. The total amount can also be entrusted to The Educational Foundation's Scholarship and Awards committee to award one (1) scholarship in the name of the chapter.

Chapters that did not distribute the received funds and/or did not report back to the Foundation how funds were utilized in the previous year will **NOT** be eligible for participation.

The sponsoring chapter is expected to be actively involved in the award process. The chapter needs to appoint one or two chapter members to serve as chapter scholarship liaisons to organize the chapter's scholarship efforts, which may include a scholarship committee. Suggested activities for the chapter officers and scholarship liaisons are:

- a. Overseeing the recipient selection;
- b. Presenting the award either at a chapter meeting or joint chapter-college function;
- c. Publicizing presentation of the award in local new media; and/or
- d. Furnishing the Society with a press release and a digital or print photograph for inclusion in news media sponsored by the Society.

Chapters are asked to localize their scholarship recruitment efforts. Some suggestions offered to the chapters as to recruitment are as follows:

- a. Distribute scholarship information to local colleges and universities
- b. Issue scholarship applications to chapters' student members
- c. Contact local colleges and universities regarding funding for their respective accounting departments

Information regarding local colleges and universities can be obtained from Callie Hammond at [chammond@gscpa.org](mailto:chammond@gscpa.org) or 404-504-2953.

Upon request, The Educational Foundation will distribute a generic scholarship application to the chapters with blank areas allowing for personalization. Please be sure to change the contact information and chosen deadlines for your individual chapter. Applications may contain sensitive student data. Please dispose of applications properly after your scholarship award process or save them in a secure location.



THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION  
of The Georgia Society of CPAs

### **Eligibility Guidelines:**

The following are requirements used by the Foundation in regards to scholarship eligibility. Chapters **must** use these requirements as minimum guidelines in selecting scholarship recipients. However, chapters may impose additional or stricter guidelines at their discretion.

- a. Demonstrate commitment to pursuing a career in accounting;
- b. Be a resident of the state of Georgia;
- c. Be a U.S. citizen or eligible Permanent Resident Alien;
- d. Intend to remain a resident of the state of Georgia;
- e. Be a rising junior or senior undergraduate accounting major or person having a concentration in Accounting or a graduate student enrolled in a masters' level accounting or business administration program at a public or private college or university accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;
- f. Be enrolled in a minimum of six semester hours (ten quarter hours) beyond the sophomore level during the period scholarship funds are to be used; and
- g. Maintain an overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) OR an accounting GPA of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale).

The following eligibility requirements **must** be met when providing institutional support.

- a. The college or university must be a four-year degree-granting institution accredited by SACS.
- b. The institution receiving funds must be able to outline for what purpose the funds will be used.

### **Utilization of Funds:**

The Foundation will only provide funds that will be used as follows:

- a. Scholarships are for future education and not for reimbursement for past expenses. Funds may be used by the student for tuition, books, room and board, supplies, and other expenses associated with the cost of education.
- b. Institutional Support that is for a specific purpose(s) and may include:
  - i. Equipment
  - ii. Books
  - iii. Capital improvements
  - iv. Technology issues
  - v. Professional development of accounting faculty



THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION  
*of The Georgia Society of CPAs*

- c. Institutional support **cannot** be distributed as scholarship support. Institutional support **cannot** be granted to a foundation or other charitable organization outside of The Educational Foundation.
- d. All funds for institutional support and for scholarships must be used at four-year degree-granting institutions accredited by SACS. The Foundation will not match funds for support of technical schools.

**Important Follow-Up Documentation:**

Once you have selected the recipients of the scholarship(s) and support, it is imperative that you forward their name(s), mailing address(es), email addresses, amount given, and when the scholarships were presented to The Educational Foundation staff liaison. **This information must be received within 30 days of distribution, but no later than May 31, 2017**

**Any money not distributed by May 31, 2017 must be returned to The Educational Foundation, no exceptions.**