



2017

SONNY MERRYMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation (VAPT) is pleased to announce the availability of the 2016 Sonny Merryman Memorial Scholarship.

Named in memory of transportation giant Floyd W. (Sonny) Merryman, Jr., the scholarship is awarded to a deserving student in the Commonwealth to cover education expenses at a postsecondary educational institution in support of a student's 2017-2018 school year tuition, books or fees.

Mr. Merryman was founder of Sonny Merryman, Inc. – a widely respected and prominent Virginia bus dealership serving the transportation industry. A staunch champion of the virtues and rewards of education, Mr. Merryman provided hundreds of young Virginians with scholarship assistance during his lifetime.

The amount of the scholarship is **\$2,500.00**.

To be eligible for the Sonny Merryman Memorial Scholarship, a student must be a Virginia public school senior who has a parent or grandparent either currently employed or formerly employed in the public school pupil transportation field in the Commonwealth of Virginia. A fact sheet is enclosed which provides additional information along with other guidelines and eligibility requirements.

PLEASE NOTE THAT ELIGIBILITY FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP REQUIRES A LOCAL SCHOOL DIVISION ELIMINATION.

All applications must FIRST BE SUBMITTED to the local school division (contact the person in charge of pupil transportation within the local school division for additional local information) where a local finalist shall be selected. The local finalist's application must be submitted to the VAPT Scholarship Committee no later than April 30, 2017. Finalist's application must contain the signature of local committee selection chairperson. Only one application from each school division will be judged at state level.

FACT SHEET
VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION
SONNY MERRYMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

1. The recipient of the scholarship will be a Virginia public school senior who has a parent or grandparent either currently employed or formerly employed in a public school pupil transportation field in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
2. Selection of applicants will be based on the following criteria:
 - * **Scholarship** - The student shall have a cumulative grade point average (grades 9-11) of 3.0 minimum.
 - * **Leadership** - The student shall have demonstrated outstanding leadership skills and abilities in co-curricular activities and community service activities.
 - * **Citizenship** - The student shall have demonstrated exemplary citizenship qualities that include not only maturity, loyalty, responsibility, integrity, and trustworthiness, but also a concern for the well-being of all citizens.
 - * **Service** - The student shall have rendered unselfish service and assistance to others, to the school, and to the community.
 - * **Essay** - The student shall have explained in a **typed** essay of not more than 500 words why he/she applied for the scholarship and, if named the recipient, how the scholarship would be used.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND PLANS FOR AWARDING THE SCHOLARSHIP

1. In the second semester of their senior year, students who meet the general criteria will complete an application in which information supporting excellence in the five areas above will be noted. The application must be typed and contain all information requested. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
2. Each applicant shall be required to submit a **typewritten** essay (not more than 500 words) which explains why the student has applied and how the student would use the scholarship if named the recipient. The essay must be

submitted as an attachment to the application at the time application is submitted. Applicants are encouraged to proof read their essays for spelling, grammar, and syntax.

3. When completed, all applications **MUST** be submitted to the local school division Scholarship Selection Committee (**contact the person in charge of pupil transportation within the local school division for additional local information**).
4. The local school division Scholarship Selection Committee shall select from all local applicants a finalist whose application must be submitted to the Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation (VAPT) Selection Committee no later than April 30, 2016.

Linwood Horne, Scholarship Chairperson
Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation
c/o Hanover County Public Schools
11375 North Lakeridge Parkway
Ashland, VA 23005-8043

5. The VAPT Selection Committee will be responsible for selecting the final scholarship recipient.
6. The scholarship recipient will be notified by the VAPT Selection Committee no later than May 26, 2017.
7. Official presentation of the scholarship will be awarded at the Annual Pupil Transportation Professional Development Conference Banquet to be held June 21, 2017 at the Marriott Waterside Hotel in Norfolk, Virginia. Applicants do not have to be present to win.

VAPT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

2017 SONNY MERRYMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

(APPLICATION MUST BE TYPED - USE N/A IF NOT APPLICABLE)

SECTION I (PERSONAL DATA)

1. Name of Applicant _____
Last First Middle

2. Home Address _____

3. Date of Birth _____

4. Telephone Number (including Area Code) _____

5. Name of Parent/Grandparent _____

Employed/Formerly Employed in Public School Transportation by:

(School Division)

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

SECTION II (EDUCATIONAL DATA)

1. School now attending _____

Address _____
Address, City, Zip

Class Rank _____ in class of _____
(number)

CEEB/SAT Test Score _____ GPA _____

2. University/College or Vocational School to which you seek admission:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

3. State your present status regarding acceptance to institutions listed in Section II #2 above:

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

SECTION III (ACTIVITIES/AWARDS)

(If additional space is required, please attach a separate sheet.)

1. List all co-curricular activities in which you have participated to include honors and awards:

2. List athletics in which you have participated:

3. List community services or projects in which you have participated:

4. Why do you desire to continue your education?

SECTION IV (WORK EXPERIENCE)

1. List any part-time or full-time work experience(s):

2. List any special interests or hobbies:

SECTION V (ESSAY)

(You must submit the essay as an attachment to your application.)

Please describe in a typed 500 words or less essay why you have applied for the scholarship and how you would use the scholarship if named the recipient.

Please check the application for completeness before signing below.

 Date of Application

 Signature of Applicant

 Signature of Parent/Grandparent

RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:

Linwood Horne, Scholarship Chairperson
Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation
c/o Hanover County Public Schools
11375 N. Lakeridge Parkway
Ashland, VA 23005-8043