**Application procedures, criteria and submission dates for**

**The Patricia McNamara Scholarship – 2025**

**The Community Foundation for McHenry County**

**The Patricia McNamara Scholarship is awarded to deserving Cary-Grove or Trinity Oaks Christian Academy graduating seniors who have chosen to pursue their career through a post-secondary education from either a vocational, trade or community college.**

**Patti McNamara would want this Scholarship to acknowledge and reward those students exhibiting a strong work ethic, dedication to the surrounding community and a love of life. The Patricia McNamara Scholarship Review Committee encourages any interested applicant to apply for the Scholarship regardless of class standing.**

Selection of the award recipients will be subjectively based by the Patricia McNamara Scholarship Review Committee on the following criteria:

1. Demonstration of a strong work ethic
2. Balance in life, well rounded
3. Persistent, dependable, tries hard, resilient
4. Compassionate, takes initiative, highest integrity

**Application and Award Procedures:**

* The CGHS Guidance Office will distribute applications beginning on February 3, 2025.
* Applicants must return the completed application forms to the CGHS Guidance Office by 3:00 pm April 4, 2025.
* Applicants must obtain two recommendations to be eligible for the Scholarship as follows:

1. One recommendation must come from an applicant’s current or past CGHS or TOCA teacher. The recommendation must be completed on the attached form and submitted directly to the Guidance Office by the recommending teacher by April 4, 2025.
2. A second recommendation from another source such as a Community Leader, Service Organization, Coach, Employer, Clergy, CGHS or TOCA Staff Member, etc. The recommendation must be a one-page letter and submitted with the Scholarship Application to the CGHS Guidance Office.

* Interviews of award finalists will be conducted on April 14, 2025.
* The Patricia McNamara Scholarship Review Committee will select two recipients based on the criteria referenced in this application. The Scholarships will be in the amount of $1,000 each. The Evaluation Committee will not base their awards on race, gender, religion, or financial need.
* The Patricia McNamara Scholarship Review Committee shall contact the CGHS Guidance Office with the names of the two Patricia McNamara Scholarship award winners by April 21, 2025.
* A member of the Patricia McNamara Review Committee will announce the two winners at the CGHS Honors Night on May 14, 2025.
* The winners must provide evidence of enrollment from the Bursar's Office from any accredited vocational school or community college. A $1,000 check will be sent by the Community Foundation for McHenry County directly to the school.
* Scholarship award is forfeited should recipient not attend a postsecondary institution in the academic year of 2025-2026.

To qualify the applicant must:

1. Be a senior at Cary-Grove High School or at Trinity Oaks Christian Academy in Cary.
2. Plan to enroll at an accredited Postsecondary Institution Vocational, Trade or Community College in the academic year of 2025-2026;
3. Submit two letters of recommendation: One must come from a CGHS or TOCA teacher; one must come from another source (i.e. Community Leader, Service Organization, Coach, Employer, Clergy, Staff Member, etc.).
4. Must graduate from CGHS or TOCA with a minimum 2.0 GPA.
5. Scholarship Review Committee members’ children are not eligible for this scholarship.

**Questions about the Patricia McNamara Scholarship can be directed to:**

**Kristen Gill**

**Cary Grove High School**

[**kgill@d155.org**](mailto:kgill@d155.org)

**847-639-3825**

**The Patricia McNamara Scholarship – 2025**

**The Community Foundation for McHenry County**

**TO STUDENT: Please complete the following information based on the current school year. All applicants must be a High School Senior at Cary Grove High School or Trinity Oaks Christian Academy with a Cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better. The applicant must have plans of attending an accredited postsecondary vocational, trade or community college in the academic year 2025-2026. Deadline for submission of this application is April 4, 2025.  *The scholarship award is for the 2025-2026 school year in the amount of $1,000. Decisions for awarding this scholarship will not be based on race, gender or financial need.***

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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City\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_\_Male\_\_\_\_\_Female

Cumulative GPA \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian’s Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Postsecondary Institution you plan to attend. (Vocational, Trade or Community College)

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Have you been accepted to Postsecondary School? \_\_\_\_\_\_Yes \_\_\_\_\_\_No

Anticipated Field of Study\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Briefly explain why you have chosen this field of study.

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Please list any extracurricular activities at school or in your community that you participate in (i.e. student organizations, school services, academic clubs, athletics, church, etc.). Please note the leadership role (if applicable) and the number of years that you were involved with each activity.

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Please list all work experience you have had in the last two years. Please note the dates at each job and the hours worked.

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Please answer the following questions. Each response should be no more than 250 words. Please indicate the question number on your response. Attach a separate paper with your typed answers.

1. Describe a life challenge and how it affected your life.
2. What is a decision that you have made that has made a positive impact on someone else’s life?
3. School and work are important, but what other interests do you have that you are passionate about?
4. Describe why you have chosen to continue your education at a Community College/Trade/Vocational School.

***I certify that all of the information on this application and all supplementary forms are true and complete. I have read and understand the instructions. I agree to cooperate with additional requests for information and by my signature authorize representatives from the Patricia McNamara Scholarship Review Committee to contact my dean of students, school counselor, or the principal of Cary-Grove High School or Trinity Oaks Christian Academy for additional information.***

**Signature**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**Date**:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Patricia McNamara Scholarship – 2025**

**The Community Foundation for McHenry County**

**CONFIDENTIAL TEACHER’S RECOMMENDATION**

**TO BE COMPLETED BY A TEACHER OF THE STUDENT’S CHOICE**

Student Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What are the first words that come to mind when describing this student?

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2. What qualities about this student set him/her apart from other students?

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3. What is his/her reputation for initiative and integrity? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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4. How does this student demonstrate a strong work ethic? Has he/she been a superior, good, average or poor citizen of the school?

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5. What do you see as this student’s main strength and weakness?

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6. How does this student deal with challenges?

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7. Please give an example of this student’s good citizenship, motivation, enthusiasm, etc.

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**On a scale of 1-5, how deserving is this applicant for this scholarship?**

**1 (least) 2 3 4 5 (most)**

Signed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Title\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: PLEASE PLACE COMPLETED RECOMMENDATION FORM IN A SEALED ENVELOPE LABELED WITH THE STUDENT’S NAME. SEND THIS RECOMMENDATION TO THE GUIDANCE OFFICE.**

**DEADLINE: MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 4, 2025.**