



Tennessee Scholars needs your support to help Tennessee students graduate prepared for the workforce and post secondary.

Donate Now!

Tennessee Scholars has a proven, clear and focused mission: To increase the percentage of Tennessee high school graduates better prepared for post secondary education, the workforce, or the military. The Scholars program was started in Tennessee for several different reasons.

In the last 60 years a dramatic change has taken place in the job market: There has been a significant shift in the makeup of the job market away from unskilled jobs that require only short, on-the-job training to skilled jobs that require one to two years beyond a high school education, i.e., a certification program, specialized training, or associate's degree. Tennessee Scholars is committed to helping all children graduate College and Career ready.

Data from a variety of sources demonstrate business' need for a greater number of highly prepared workers. 90 percent of the positions in the fastest growing portions of the job market will require some education after high school. Analysts predict that the United States will have a shortage of 12 million qualified workers in the next decade, and many employers already say they cannot find qualified candidates for hourly positions, citing poor math, reading, writing, and basic employment skills. More than 60 percent of students are losing their Hope Scholarship the first semester in college. More than 65 percent of students going to community colleges require remedial class.

In the past eight years more than 22,000 students have chosen to graduate as Tennessee Scholars. That means they have taken a rigorous academic curriculum, maintained 95% attendance, had no out-of-school suspensions, maintained at least a C average, and completed numerous hours of volunteer service. Data from the 2011 graduates showed Tennessee Scholars average ACT score was 23.8 and the average grade average was 3 or higher. These students average more than 110 volunteer service hours each. These students now can take advantage of scholarships at more than 35 post secondary schools in Tennessee. There are now more than 500 trained volunteers who support this program by visiting schools, job shadowing, and mentoring.

Tennessee Scholars was started in Tennessee as a workforce development initiative of Eastman Chemical. Business and Industry have helped to grow this program to more than 80% of the school systems in the state through volunteers and financial contributions. Your donation is critical to sustaining and continued growth of this program. Any amount you can give would help us reach our goal of \$100,000. Your donation is tax deductible under the Tennessee Association of Business Foundation, under the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce .

Please donate today.

Ruth Woodall, Director of Tennessee Scholars

By faxing, mailing or emailing this form with your donation, you will be helping to build a brighter future for Tennessee. Tennessee Scholars is a free program for participating schools and youth. Please make your donations to Tennessee Scholars.

Name _____

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Card number _____ Expiration date _____

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