



2024 OAKS Scholarship Nomination Form

DEADLINE: MAY 20, 2024

NOMINATION INFORMATION:

Nominator Name _____

Nominator Address _____

Nominator Phone _____ Nominator Email _____

Relationship to Nominee _____ How Long You Have Known Nominee: _____

Nominator Place of Employment/School/Organization _____

Please indicate how this nomination process was **initiated**:

- the student a classmate or friend a family member teacher or coach
 employer school counselor a community organization
 other _____

Nomination is for a (CHECK ONE):

- High School student who will be graduating Spring 2024 and attending RCTC Fall 2024
 RCTC student enrolled Spring 2024 and returning Fall 2024

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

This nomination is a testimony that a student has shown exceptional resilience, tenacity, and drive to pursue their academic goals in the face of adversity.

On a separate sheet, please write your reasons for nominating this student for an **OAKS** scholarship. Please limit your nomination letter to no more than two double spaced pages. The nomination letter should include the following information:

- 1) Describe the circumstances, experiences, or challenges that the student has overcome.
- 2) Describe the choices, changes, or actions that a student has taken to overcome challenges in their life.
- 3) What qualities or skills will help them to be successful at RCTC?
- 4) Why do you recommend them for the OAKS scholarship?

To complete their application, students must apply for the scholarship through the RCTC Foundation scholarship portal (www.rctc.edu/scholarships). If selected to receive a scholarship, each nominee will be interviewed to tell their story of how the student has overcome adversity. Videos of previous OAKS recipients can be found at www.rctc.edu/the-oaks. Both student and nominator are expected to attend the **OAKS ceremony (Oct/Nov TBD).**

Nominator Signature: _____ Date: _____

APPLICATION PROCESS

Nominated students will complete a *single scholarship application* that will apply for more than 150 RCTC Foundation scholarships, **including the OAKS scholarship**. *If a student is unsuccessful in being awarded an OAKS scholarship, their application will be considered for other scholarships that consider hardship among other factors (financial need, academics, planned major, experience with mental or physical illness, experience with foster care, surviving domestic abuse, single parents etc.)*

Step 1: Confirm with the student that **1) the student plans to attend RCTC, 2) is happy to be nominated for the OAKS Scholarship and be recognized publicly, 3) and is willing to write an essay describing the difficulties they have experienced and how they have overcome them.**

Step 2: Complete this nomination form. You can email it to janelle.worthington@rctc.edu before May 20, 2024.

Step 3: The student will submit a single scholarship application (which includes GPA, transcript, a statement of financial need, and essays about their future plans) through www.rctc.edu/scholarships. Students will be asked, "Have you experienced significant difficulties (such as personal or family hardships, abuse, neglect, medical issues, disabilities, chemical dependency, or language and cultural barriers) in life but have overcome them?" **Answer Yes.**

- A) Student applicants for an OAKS scholarship must attach an essay describing the difficulties they have experienced, how they have overcome these obstacles and what they have learned from their struggles. Please limit the essay to no more than two double-spaced pages.
- B) The student will be asked to complete an external request for your nomination form and letter. The student will input **your email address** into our scholarship software (AWARDSRING). **You will then receive an email requesting that you upload this nomination form and your nomination letter. Please upload the nomination form and the nomination letter into the portal by May 20, 2024.** Only then is the application for the OAKS Scholarship be considered complete and submitted.

We recognize that this is a new process. If you have not received an email requesting the upload of this nomination form and your nomination letter by May 20, 2024, please email those documents to janelle.worthington@rctc.edu and we can manually add those documents to their application if they are missing.

Students who are shortlisted for the OAKS Scholarship will be interviewed by the selection committee in June, with finalists selected in July. Finalists and their nominators will be invited to tell their story in a brief video. Previous videos are available at www.rctc.edu/the-oaks. The OAKS Scholarship recipients and their nominators will be publicly recognized at the OAKS Scholarship Celebration. The scholarships are funded with generous donations from individuals and organizations raised at the OAKS Scholarship Celebration event.

Student applications, nomination forms and letters must be submitted by

May 20, 2024
www.rctc.edu/scholarships

Questions? Contact the RCTC Foundation at 507.281.7771 or foundation@rctc.edu