



November 14, 2016

Mayor Jeff Carothers
Town of Yacolt
PO Box 160
Yacolt, WA 98675

Dear Mayor Carothers,

The AWC Center for Quality Communities is pleased to once again, announce the recruitment of young leaders from your community for the 2017 Quality Communities Scholarship program. In 2016, the Center awarded six outstanding young leaders scholarships. I hope your city will participate in this program and nominate a student to compete for a scholarship to be awarded next spring.

The AWC Center for Quality Communities is a 501(c)(3) organization, sponsored by the Association of Washington Cities, to promote civic engagement and provide the public a better understanding of the role cities and towns play in Washington. In 2017, we are pleased to be able to offer once again, six \$1,000 Quality Communities Scholarships to outstanding high school seniors. The funds were raised during AWC's 2016 Annual Conference in Everett when city officials, just like you, pledged to invest in young leaders—the future of our communities.

Your city or town can be an integral part of the Center's scholarship program by selecting and nominating one young leader who plans to attend college or a trade school in fall 2017. How you decide to recruit applicants is completely up to you. You can look community wide, concentrate on city hall volunteers, or partner with your community high school. **The deadline for nominating your local student is March 10, 2017.**

I've enclosed information about the AWC Center for Quality Communities and the scholarship fund, and you can find the application form and outreach suggestions at www.cfqc.org. I look forward to seeing your application form. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Tanner (karent@awcnet.org) at (360) 753-4137.

Sincerely,

Peter B. King
AWC Chief Executive Officer

c: City Clerk

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AWC Center for Quality Communities Scholarship

Background

AWC Center for Quality Communities promotes municipal leadership development and civic engagement. Our goal is to help residents understand the important role their cities and towns play in Washington. The Center is a 501(c)(3) organization.

We believe in helping to ensure the success of student leaders who care about their communities. The Center for Quality Communities Scholarship supports senior high school students who are actively engaged with their community and/or city government and want to pursue post-secondary education.

The scholarship fund is supported by people who are passionate about cultivating Washington's future local leaders.

Scholarships

Six \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to high school students who plan to pursue a post-secondary degree in fall 2017. Scholarship funds will be sent directly to the institution. Funds can be used for education expenses and will be deposited directly into a student account.

Student Eligibility

Students interested in competing for the Center for Quality Communities scholarship fund must be:

- Involved (or have been involved) with a city government or with a community/school leadership activity;
- Eligible to graduate from high school, complete home school or receive a GED in spring/summer 2017;
- A Washington state resident; and
- Plan to continue education in the 2017-2018 academic year at an accredited college, community college or trade school on a half-time or more basis.

Timeframe

Washington's 281 cities and towns begin recruiting scholarship applicants in fall 2016. Each participating city must forward the completed application form of one nominee to the AWC Center for Quality Communities by **March 10, 2017**. Scholarship winners will be notified in May 2017.

City Instructions & Selection Process

One nominee per city/town will be considered for the Center for Quality Communities scholarship fund.

Cities are asked to:

- Decide how you want to choose one local nominee (competitive process open to the community, competitive process open to active city volunteers, recruit through local schools, etc.). You may limit applicants to city residents.
- Publicize the scholarship.
- Collect locally completed application forms.
- Write a letter of support for your nominee.
- Submit one application form and letter of support to:

**Center for Quality Communities
Scholarship
1076 Franklin St SE
Olympia, WA 98501-1346**

Deadline for city nominee to be forwarded to AWC Center for Quality Communities is March 10, 2017.

For more information, check the Center for Quality Communities website at cfqc.org.